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# 3d Hostage Is Killed By Algiers Hijackers

By Alan Riding New York Times Service

PARIS — The Algerian government rejected on Sunday a demand by Islamic fundamentalist hijackers for permission to take off on board an Air France airliner that they seized in Algiers as it prepared to leave on a scheduled flight to Paris.

The gunmen killed two passengers soon after they took over the Airhus A-300 on Saturday and released at least 60 Algerian

Late Sunday, France said a third passenger had been killed.
"We just had confirmation of the killing

of a passenger," the French Foreign Ministry said in a statement. It said the body, unidentified, had been "dumped from the plane on the gangway." Earlier reports had quoted the gunmen as saying that they would "kill a Frenchman" unless the plane left Algiers by 9:30 P.M.

Foreign Minister Alain Juppe of France had said that Paris might allow the plane to fly to France.

The gunmen were believed to be still holding some 165 passengers and crew, including an estimated 40 French nation-

Algerian news reports said the gunmen demanded the release of the two top leaders of the banned Islamic Salvation Front, Ahhasi Madani and Ali Belhadj, who are under house arrest. But a Sunday deadline passed, and the gunmen reportedly withdrew their demand.

France offered to send commandos to free the hostages. "We have put intervention units on the alert in case the Algerian authorities reply favorably to our offer," Mr. Juppe said. Unconfirmed reports said the commandos had already flown to

The gunmen are thought to belong to the Armed Islamic Group, the most radical of several fundamentalists groups fighting to overthrow Algeria's army-backed regime. Last year, the Armed Islamic Group began targeting foreigners living in Algeria and, to date, 80 have been killed.

This group, as well as the larger Islamic Salvation Front, also increasingly regards France as a foe, not only because Paris supports the Algerian government, hut also because Paris has begue clamping down on fundamentalist support groups operating among its large Algerian community.

By seizing the Air France airliner on the ground at Houari Boumedienne Airport, the extremists appear to have achieved two goals — embarrassing the embattled Al-giers government and reminding Paris of the perils of involving itself in Algeria's

By offering to send commandos, France seemed to take up the challenge. Prime Minister Edouard Balladur cut short a Christmas vacation and returned to Paris to preside over an emergency meeting at-tended by Interior Minister Charles Pas-

See HIJACK, Page 2



A Chechen fire fighter putting out a blaze started by a bombing raid in Grozny. Air raids killed at least 13 this weekend.

# **1,000 Rebels** Die in Battle Near Grozny, Russia Says

### Ground War Intensifies As Troops Try to Sever Chechen Escape Routes

By Steven Erlanger New York Times Servi

MOSCOW - In what appeared to be a sharp escalation of the ground war in secessionist Chechnya, the Russian govern-ment asserted Sunday that about 1,000 Chechen fighters had been killed in heavy fighting around the town of Argun, about eight miles east of Grozny.

The Russian government's press service said that "a massive group of illegal armed units," using armor, artillery and flame-throwers, had attacked Russian troops late Saturday but been rehuffed by noon Sun-

[Chechen fighters denied the claim, Reuters reported from Argun.]

The figure for the dead would make this by far the biggest land battle since up to 40,000 Russian troops invaded Chechnya on Dec. 11. But the figure could not be confirmed, nor could the parallel Russian assertion that Moscow's Interior Ministry troops had suffered no casualties in the same period. Officials were silent Sunday on the casualty toll for Defense Ministry

Taking Argun is important to Russian efforts to cut off the capital and leave exit routes only to the south, which lead to relatively inhospitable mountains. Though moving much more slowly than its commanders had promised, the reinforced Russian infantry appears to be close to positions required to isolate Grozny and storm it, senior Western diplomats said

The government's press center an-oounced Saturday that Russian forces had completely surrounded Grozny, but the claim was premature. On Sunday, the Russians claimed only to control "all access roads to Argun," oot the town itself, which is said to be in ruins. On Soviet maps, Argun is listed with a population of between 10,000 and 50,000

As the land war intensified, the bombing of Grozny eased, the Chechen vice presiwith no raids Sunday by dark. On Saturday night, bombs set fire to the local Parhament building and hit dozens of houses, a local journalist told Reuters by tele-phone. Chechen officials said 25 people

See CHECHNYA, Page 2

# As Tuition Soars, Frightened Colleges Now Say: Let's Make a Deal

By Peter Applebome New York Times Service

BETHLEHEM, Pennsylvania - Increasingly, discouot merchandising is coming to academia.

At Lehigh University here, a new program allows top students to get a fifth year of undergraduate or graduate education free, and the school, for the first time, has instituted scholarships not based on financial need to attract top students.

Its business school has cut tuition 22 percent for its master's program. MBA graduates get two-thirds off the regular tuition price for any course they take after graduation.

The changes at Lehigh are just a glimpse of a revolution beginning to rock colleges and universities as more consumers make it clear that they cannot or will not pay the sticker price for college.

we're oot trying to be the of said James Schmotter, dean of Lebigh's College of Business and Economics. "But I think we've sat here oo campus and thought we're special and we're different from other kinds of marketplaces. Our customers oo longer think we are that different; they see us more like other high-priced luxury goods.

"As time goes by, I think we're going to see increasingly more aggressive and creative and sometimes desperate pricing schemes."

college education has grown far faster than the consumer price index and personal income.

Second, the pool of applicants is declining or

significantly. In the last four years, the oumber of students paying full tuition at Lehigh, for example, has dropped to 49 percent from 63 percent, and nationally fewer than half of all college students pay full tuition

Experts say that discount schemes are proliferating. They include more financial aid awards based on need, merit scholarships designed to attract sought-after students and innovative pricing.

Robert Zemsky, director of the Institute for Reof higher education, particularly in the private sec-tor, is collapsing, and there will be a lot of what might be called novel experiments in the years to come. The market is trying to, in a larger sense, clear, and find out the real price the public is willing to pay for higher education."

education in its hind. The first is that the cost of a degree.

Second, the pool of applicants is declining or The higher education market has already changed stagnant. Third, the public is increasingly skeptical and cost-conscious as a result of the consumer movement and negative publicity about academic life. Fourth, competition for top students is increasing.

Those factors have contributed to experiments

like these price-cutting plans:

• In October, the University of Rochester announced that it would give a \$5,000 grant to all New York state residents who enrolled as freshmen in

• The University of Detroit Mercy, Michigan's search in Higher Education at the University of largest private university, took the opposite tack, Pennsylvania, said, "I think the whole price structure" offering ont-of-state students a grant program of up to \$1,950 to match what the state gives Michigan

 Susquehanna University io Pennsylvania and Clarkson University in upstate New York are among schools that have begun offering four-year degrees for the price of three, allowing students to cut Experts say at least four factors have put higher \$12,500 to \$25,000 from the cost of their bachelor's

• This month Michigan State announced what it called a "historic" policy guaranteeing that tuitioo would not rise faster than the projected rate of inflation for the oext three years.

According to the College Board, average annual tuition is now \$11,709 at four-year private colleges and \$2,686 at four-year public colleges, both up 6 percent over the previous year.

When room, board, books, supplies and transportation are included, the total price comes to \$18,784 a year for resident students at four-year private colleges and \$8,990 at public ones. The average American student pays about half of the total college bill, experts say.

A study by Mr. Zemsky's institute last summer examined five representative colleges from 1987 to 1993 and found that all were increasingly likely over time to offer more financial aid. The study also suggested that the purpose of the aid was oot just to assist needy students but to increase enrollment and

The emerging discounts are part of the same

# A Christmas View of Sarajevo's History

### A Cemetery Now Haunts the Lot Where Children Used to Romp and Laugh

By John Pomfret

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina -

From a second-story window of her cramped but cozy apariment tucked inside a mud-and-mortar house, Violeta Zvidic has watched the wooded playground of her youth mutate into a graveyard over 32 months of war.

On Christmas Eve, another young man, a 22-year-old police officer, was laid to rest in Heroes' Cemetery.

Her knees digging into a decrepit couch, she pressed her face against the window, steaming it as men outside in military fatigues passed a shovel from hand to hand, dropping dirt onto a plywood coffin. Despite what officials see as Bosnia's

most serious cease-fire in almost a year, Mrs. Zvidic, 24, has little hope that she has witnessed the last burial here of a man killed by Serbian guns. A nationwide truce brokered hy Jimmy Carter, the former U.S. president, began at noon Saturday.

[One day into Bosnia's latest cease-fire,

President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia warned Sunday that his troops would resume fighting unless Croatian Serhs stopped attacks on the Bihac pocket, The Associated Press reported from Sarajevo. [Although most of Bosnia appeared calm one day after the start of the newest

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — An unarmed man tentatively identified by the Secret Service as Lolando Bello was ar-

rested Sunday atop the northern fence of

the White House, a Secret Service

spokesman said. President Bill Clinton and his family

were inside at the time but were never in

danger, the spokesman said. It was the

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truce, UN officials reported fighting south of Velika Kladusa. They said the attackers were apparently Croatian Serbs and their rebel Muslim allies and asserted that this was was not a violation of the truce, since only Bosnian Serhs and government troops were parties to the agreement. Mr. Izetbegovic saw it differently.

["If those attacks don't stop, I am responsibly stating that there will be no

What can you say to someone whose playground. is now filled with dead people?

cease-fire and that our army will respond on other fronts," he said on state radio.] Mrs. Zvidic and many others like her looked on the latest truce as a sad joke.

"What can you say to someone whose playground is now filled with dead peo-ple?" said her mother, Gordana. "You tell us things will get better. We can only

Sarajevo has toyed with hope before. On Feb. 9 — after the bloodiest massacre of the war, the killing of 68 people by a

latest in a rash of attempts to breach

White House security.

"Somebody grabbed him hanging from the fence," the spokesman said.
"He was not armed, and we don't know what he was up to." He said arrests of

fence climbers "happen regularly" at the

entry and making threats after arguing with the police during the course of his

A death squad scandal haunts Madrid's

Italy gasps for breath as the holidays offer a break from politics. Page 2.

Page 2.

Page 5

Page 5

The man was charged with unlawful

White House.

ruling circles.

Kiosk

Man Seized Atop White House Fence

mortar shell in its open-air market — a NATO ultimatum ordering the Serbs to remove their weapons from around Saraievo sparked confidence that the city's suf-

fering might soon end.
But Serbian forces effectively reimposed the siege on July 26. Since then, shelling and surping have increased. Four people were killed last week: an 82-year-old grandfather, an 11-year-old girl, a street vendor in his 20s, and Mirsad Delic, the policeman who was buried Saturday, two days after he was killed when two shells

exploded in a Sarajevo market.

Mr. Carter's mission, which ended Tuesday, followed by UN-led talks that concluded Friday, have given some ground for hope. Under the cease-fire deal, talks are to be held on a four-month "total cessation of hostilities," and UN officials say they are hopeful that such an agreement can be achieved by New Year's Day.

If so, negotiations aimed at a political settlement of the war would be next. But

many people here think not.

Mr. Delic, according to Bosnian Health
Ministry records, was the 10,069th fatality in the city since the war began. Snaking across a rolling landscape of whiteness, a line of dark figures, with the

See BOSNIA, Page 2



PAPAL MESSAGE - John Paul II leaning on his staff during Christmas Mass in St. Peter's. He lamented fighting around the world. Page 5.

# American Science: End of Golden Age?

### Experts Fear Progress May Suffer as More Researchers Chase Fewer Grants

By Boyce Rensberger

Washington Past Service

WASHINGTON — The end of the post-World War II boom in U.S. science funding, coupled with a rapid increase in the number of scientists competing for that funding, could lead to slower rates of technological advancement and flagging battles against disease, hunger and environmental decline, according to leaders in the U.S. scientific community.

Federal funding for scientific research grew faster than the rate of inflation from the end of World War II until 1987, except for a minor dip in the 1960s. Since 1987, however, federal research funding has just kept pace with inflation.

At the same time, the number of university-based scientists supported by federal grants has continued to grow at a rate of 5.7 percent a year - 21/2 times faster than the U.S. work force as a whole. The oumber of medical scientists has grown 10 times faster than the work force.

One effect of the increased competition for funding, scientists say, is that basic or pure science research proposals that might yield major advances frequently are rejected because they are long shots or would take too many years to pay off. Instead, they

say, the grant money goes to more cautious, incremental proposals that promise to show quicker results. Another effect is that many young scientists - the future

lifeblood of American science — cannot find permanent jobs in research and are quitting a profession that once was viewed as a lifelong calling. Older and more established scientists occupy most of the permanent positions and, studies suggest, get most of

A study by the National Academy of Sciences showed that between 1985 and 1993, even as the overall number of grant applications was increasing, applications from scientists under the age of 37 dropped 54 percent. Researchers suggest that younger scientists are not seeking grants because they have no permanent job base from which to apply.

The unemployment rate among scientists with doctorate derees is now among the highest for all professionals. Since 1988 it has tripled, from 1 percent to 3 percent, with the sharpest rise occurring even as the overall unemployment rate has fallen in

The growth in the number of new doctorate-holders has See SCIENCE, Page 2

# **Muslim Bomber** Kills Only Self In Israel Attack

By Barton Gellman

Washington Past Service
JERUSALEM — An Islamic militant wounded 13 people Sunday morning but killed only himself when he mistimed the detonation of a satchel charge near a bus full of Israeli Air Force troops.

Hundreds of soldiers had gathered near the Jerusalem Convention Center on Zalman Shazar Avenue, as they do each Sunday morning, for chartered bus rides back to their bases from weekend leave. Security officials said Israel was spared a major loss of life when something caused the bomber to set off the explosion prematurely at about 6:10 A.M.

The Islamic Resistance Movement known as Hamas took responsibility for the attack. The political impact was heightened here by disclosure that the bomber was a member of Yasser Arafat's self-rule police in the Gaza Strip, a fact calculated to embarrass both Mr. Arafat and his negotiating partners in the Israeli government. Witnesses in Gaza said they had often seen the man directing traffic in a dark blue police uniform, and Palestinan official sources acknowledged that he was a member of the force.

The attack continued a pattern set in October, at Jerusalem's pedestrian mall and on Dizengoff Street in Tel Aviv, in which Hamas strikes at the icons of normal

The force of the explosion blew glass and metal from a nearby bus shelter clear across the six-lane boulevard and well into a parking lot on the other side. The black-ened remains of the bomber lay in the center lane of traffic, mingled with pieces of a chartered bus that the main force of the blast had narrowly missed.

Eli Bramli, who drove that bus, said in an interview nearby that he ran a regular route from Jerusalem to an air base near Ramla and that most of his passengers were uniformed troops. In the seconds before the explosion, he said, a man in civilian clothes joined a knot of late-arriving soldiers and looked as though he intended to climb aboard.

"I closed the rear door and pulled away," Mr. Bramli said. "Only passengers I know get on the bus."

Ehnd Olmert, the mayor of Jerusalem, who was briefed at the scene by Major. General Arye Amit, the district police

See ISRAEL, Page 2









# Confusion Reigns As Italians Gasp For Political Break

By Alan Cowell New York Times Service

ROME - The Christmas holiday was also a time of relief for Italians this year: for a couple of days at least there was a respite from political controversy and confusion.

For days before the break, politicians filled the air waves and newspapers with the sound and fury of a full-blown political crisis that culminated last week with the resignation of Prime Minister Silvio Berlus-

He stepped down in the face of a revolt within his governing coalition that has brought his country's attempt at political renewal to a half.

Italians may like to think of themselves as cynical about politicians. Nevertheless, the latest scandal seems to have created rare confusion.
"There is a kind of disorien-

tation," said Stefano Belli, selling newspapers from his kiosk on a rainy afternoon. "People are confused. They don't know which way to go. In the past, there was left and right — a clear distinction. Now, apart from the extremes, it's difficult to know what difference there is between them.

Cynicism aside, there is anger that the experiment has imploded, and disappointment that the new politicians have proved so feeble.

"I expected change," said Luciana Romani, 37, who works for a UN agency in Rome. "But

#### 15 Australians Hurt In a Nightclub Blaze

NEWCASTLE, Australia Eleven people were bospitalized

and four were treated for smoke inhalation after a rock band's fire-eating act went awry during a Christmas Eve performance, police said Sunday.

Fifty-five people were evacu-ated from The Star restaurantnightcluh complex here after the lead singer of the band the others from forming a gov-Freak Shop accidentally set fire ernment," said a political anato the roof by igniting a mouth-ful of kerosene, the police said. said, there are "no winners."

Continued from Page 1

coincided with a recent influx

of foreign researchers, creating

a pool of professionals that far

exceeds the number of science

jobs available in academia and

shortage that experts once fore-

cast, the United States now

faces what many call a scientist

Science groups and politi-

cians have proposed a range of

possible ways to avoid the

feared dulling of America's sci-entific edge. Not surprisingly,

some scientific organizations

contend that the answer is to

boost research funding, espe-

cially for basic science - the kind of research aimed at learn-

ing more about how nature

Other groups, including the National Academy of Sciences,

say that current spending is suf-

ficient but the nation should set

priorities for scientific research.

advocacy groups argue that in-stead of spending so much on

basic science, research money

should be directed into targeted

projects, such as curing specifie in world markets."

Herald Eribune

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Some political leaders and

works.

SCIENCE: Transition in America

that we don't have a really good leader or political group that

has a program."
In the Paradiso bar in central Rome, Antonio Tolomei shrugged as he served coffee to the last stragglers from the stores. He complained that Mr. Berlusconi had simply not been given enough time to put change into effect.

He was most angry, he said, at Umberto Bossi, the leader of the Northern League, who abandoned the coalition and joined the parliamentary opposition in trying to bring down Mr. Berlusconi after winning an election in alliance with him.

"The coalition gave Bossi lot - government ministries and so forth — but he turned around and destroyed it," Mr. Tolomei said. "It shocked peo-

That image of aggrieved decency and of generosity be-trayed is the one Mr. Berlusconi will pursue as he seeks another chance to run the country.

Even in the anti-Berlusconi camp, rejoicing over victory is tempered by confusion about

"None of us here likes Berlusconi," said Anda Fabrizi, 45. a public relations consultant. But no one is bappy with

what's happening."
President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro must now decide whether to call new elections, name someone else to try to form a government or even ask Mr. Berlusconi to cobble together a new coalition. The president is expected to open talks with major political figures Tuesday.

Complicating his task, the maneuvering surrounding the Berlusconi resignation has not only rohbed Mr. Scalfaro of a majority but has so divided his opponents that they cannot come up with an alternative

majority in Parliament. There are now two or three parliamentary minorities, each of which is too weak to govern of which is too weak to govern hut strong enough to prevent HIJACK: Algiers Blocks Takeoff

diseases or developing particu-

combination of stagnant fund-

ing and a glut of scientists is not

altogether bad.
"There's always going to be

an oversupply of scientists,'

said Bruce Alberts, president of

the NAS. "My own view is that

the system has to be competi-

tive. Getting government fund-

ing is a privilege. The stiffer the

competition, the better the

chance that only the best are

cluding Alberts, agree that some effort should be made to

remedy the current imbalance

between the number of scientists and the amount of research

"If we persist on this course, we can expect to see America's

position in the world gradually

weaken," said Leon Lederman,

a Nobel laureate in physics and

former director of Fermilab, the

world's most powerful atom

smasher."We will watch as our

technology-based products be-

come less and less competitive

But most of the experts, in-

A few experts even say the

lar technologies.

getting grants."



Hundreds of Sarajevo residents gathering at a cemetery in the city center to pray over the newly dead before their burial.

# Sudan Said to Help Algerian Rebels

#### Iran Allegedly Uses Nation as a Transit Point for Arms

What is apparently beyond

gerian policeman. One freed

hostage said the man pleaded

vainly for his life, shouting,

"Don't kill me, I am married, I have a child." The other slain

passenger was said to be Viet-

At first, four gunmen were

reported involved in the attack.

but Algerian authorities said

five on the plane. Freed hos-

lashnikov assault rifles and two

ground crew when they came on

released were quoted as saying the men recited sections of the

Koran and forced women to

By Chris Hedges

New York Times Service KHARTOUM, Sudan — Sudan's Islamic government, censured for its human-rights violations and its support for various armed Islamic militant groups, is now helping Mus-lim fundamentalists in their effort to topple the Algerian government, according to Western intelligence reports.

Sudan, the reports say, is assisting the Algerian guerillas by permitting Iran to use Sudanese territory as a transit point for weapons being smuggled to the Algerian guerrillas.

The elaborate operation to arm the Algerian guerrillas apparently involves shipping or flying weapons that originate in Iran to Sudan and through the remote desert region in northern Chad to Niger or Libya and on to

Algeria, intelligence reports say.

Clinton administration officials said the shipments from Iran had contained ammunition and small arms. ft was unclear, they said, whether Libya has been cooperating in the transit of the arms, but the officials said they were "watching the situation closely." There was no doubt, these officials said, that Algerian insurgents were also receiving specialized training in Lebanon and Sudan.

Continued from Page 1

Balladur also conferred by tele-

phone with the prime minister

Mr. Juppé said there were "around 40" Prench bostages,

but there was also confusion

board at the time of the hijack-

ing. Air France originally said

there were 271 passengers and

only 166 people left on board.

of passengers to 227, noting that 44 passengers traveling in

airport huses had not reached

the jet by the time the gunmen

struck. Reports on the number

of passengers freed to date also

varied between 60 and 63.

about the number of people on namese diplomat.

before the

12 crew, but Algerian authori- Sunday that there were at least

third killing, that there were tages said they carried two Ka-

Air France later reduced its automatic pistols and were

estimate of the original number wearing the uniforms of airport

of Algeria, Mokdad Sifi.

"What all this shows is that Iran is prepared to fish in troubled waters where it can." a senior administration official said. "But the movement is not operating from Tehran. Tehran is putting fuel on the fire."

At a time when an increasing number of militant groups are finding a haven in Sudan, many see the Khartoum government's assis-tance to the Algerian rebels as the most senous challenge to Western security interests in the region since the Islamic regime seized power here in a 1989 coup.

"We are reassessing just how dangerous Sudan is to our security interests," a Western diplomat said. "It is one thing to provide a sanctuary to Islamic militants and allow them to train, and another to become a conduit for arms to the Algerian insurgents. It is one thing to have an Islamie government here, and quite another to have one in Algeria."

Hassan Turabi, the secretary general of the Popular Arab and Islamic Conference, who is widely considered the most powerful figure in Sudan, said the charges were invented by the United States as "part of its campaign to destroy the Sudan."

### **BOSNIA:**

### View in Sarajevo

Continued from Page 1 signature black caps of the Bosnian police, carried their colleague's coffin through the snow-covered graveyard.

Past graves of young men born in 1967, 1972, 1968, 1977, the somber procession made its way to a new plot less than 15 feet from Mrs. Zvidic's window at the edge of the cemetery.

Dabbing his eyes with a tat-tered piece of toilet paper, Mr. Delic's father, Azem, turned from the pit as they lowered his son into the ground.

"There's nothing much f can say," he said later. "He was a fair and honest boy. f don't know what to say."

Upstairs in her house, Mrs. Zvidic's husband, Hussein, was trying to celebrate his 31st birthday while the funeral progressed below.

"Five friends of mine are buried there," said the former member of a special forces unit of the Sarajevo police, "I don't have the strength to cry any-

# CHECHNYA: Fighting Intensifies

Continued from Page 1 qua, Defense Minister François doubt is that three passengers Léotard and Mr. Juppé. Mr. were killed, one of them an Alhad died during the raids. Local television was off the air, they said, and there was no electric-

> vice in the city. The bombing full seemed designed to allow more civilians to flee Grozny, which is described as a city in rums. Russian officials say about 2,000 refugees a day were fleeing Chechnya to bordering Ingushetia and Dagestan.

But the bombing has also produced the first criticism of Russian tactics from Western countries such as the United States, Britain, Italy and France, which evidently want to do nothing that would under-Several passengers who were mine the stability of the Russian Federation or its president,

Boris N. Yeltsin. There was a small rally Sun-

day in Moscow to protest the military campaign, drawing about 1,000 people on a relatively mild if snowy day. They heard another sharp attack on ity or automatic telephone ser-Mr. Yeltsin by his human-rights adviser, Sergei Kovalyov, a

well-known dissident in Soviet

times. Mr. Kovalyov has remained in Grozny throughout the conflict and has provided some of the few relatively unbiased reports of casualties and damage.

read at the rally, he called on Mr. Yeltsin to stop "this crazy massacre" and pull the country "out of this vicious circle of despair and blood-stained lies."

Mr. Kovalyov said that the Chechen leaders were ready for negotiations with Moscow, and he urged the president to begin

# WORLD BRIEFS

# Top Israeli and Syrian Generals Meet

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israel and Syria have ended their talks for the year after a meeting between senior military officers. from the two sides. They will resume their search for a peace treaty

Military commanders joined negotiations between Ambassadors Itamar Rabinovich of Israel and Walid Moualem of Syria here on Thursday. The Israeli generals then went home, and Israeli officials said Sunday that the ambassadors were expected

to meet again after the new year. The meeting with the generals was described by the officials as constructive. The official Syrian press agency, SANA, monitored in Damascus, said General Hikmat Shehabi and his Israeli counterpart, General Ehnd Barak, had participated in Thursday's talks, which, it said, "ended without any tangible results." It was the first known meeting between such high-ranking Syrian and Israeli officials since the peace effort began in 1991.

### U.S. Forces Board a Ship in Gulf

DUBAI (Reuters) - U.S. forces in the Gulf boarded a vessel carrying dates Sunday after it tried to escape U.S. ships enforcing the United Nations trade embargo on Iraq, a navy spokesman

Commander T. McCreary said 24 Marmes and navy special forces troops slid down slid down ropes from a hovering helicopter onto the Honduran-flagged Ajmir after it "tried to make a run last night and escape from the U.S. ship that was watching over

U.S. inspectors had found on board a cargo of dates, which the navy said came from Iraq. The navy was detaining the ship until it could be diverted to a Gulf port.

### Japan Opposition Wants an Election

TOKYO (AFP) — Tsutomu Hata, a former prime minister who is now a vice president of the opposition New Frontier Party, urged the government on Sunday to call a snap election as soon as Parliament approves the budget early next year.

He said that opposition parties were likely to press the government to dissolve the lower house for early general elections as soon as Parliament passes the budget for the year starting April 1995. The government adopted the budget on Sunday and will submit it to the legislative session starting in mid-January. The budget bills are expected to clear Parliament only after a lengthy

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said earlier that he was not considering early general elections. A recent poll showed that almost 70 percent of members from the lower house said they believed that general elections for that chamber would be held after the upper house is elected in July.

### TRAVEL UPDATE

### QE2 Leaves New York After Fix-Ups

NEW YORK (NYT) - The Queen Elizabeth 2 has sailed from New York for the continuation of a 108-day world tour, after being delayed for more than 24 bours when Coast Guard inspectors cited safety violations.

The departure Saturday came after a day of continued complaints from passengers who described the luxury ship as a floating work-in-progress whose \$45 million renovation was nowhere near finished when it left Southampton, England, last week. A number of passengers left the ship as repairs continued at a furious pace just prior to the departure.

Coast Guard inspectors had discovered holes in fire-resistant alkheads for new wires and pipes. They said that the holes could hasten the spread of fire through the ship. The ship was essentially tied up until the problems were corrected.

Tauzania, South Africa and Uganda have immeded an airline, to be called Alliance, which will start flights in March, officials said in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. If will serve Dar es Salaam, Entebber. Bombay, London, Dubai and Johannesburg.

### This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

MONDAY: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Botswana, Rituin, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Gibraliar, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Hondaras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Ghana, Gibraltar, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hangary, Iceland, Iteland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Letvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luccabourg, Macao, Malawi, Malayaia, Namibia, Netherlands, Nezealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Puerto Rico, Sierra Leone, Singspore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Trinidad, Uganda, United States, Vatican Gty, Zimbabwe.

TUESDAY: Australia, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, Britain, Canada, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jamaica, Lesotho, Linconbourg, Malawi, New Zealand, Sierta Leone, Vatican City.

WEDNESDAY: Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Ircland, Nepal.

THURSDAY: Costa Rica.

FRIDAY: Belgium, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Finland, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, Peru, Philippines. SATURDAY: Andorra, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunci, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Italy, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Vatican City.

SUNDAY: Bahrain, Djibouti, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Mauritaia, Somali, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Umited Arab Emirates, Yernez,

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters.

# Spain Aide Held in Death-Squad Case

MADRID - The killings of suspected

Basque separatists by rightist death squads in the mid-1980s have returned to haunt the Socialist-led government with the arrest of a top official who led antiterrorist efforts at the time, provoking debate about the tactics that democratie governments can use against terrorism.

The official Julian Sancristobal, who served as director of state security and head of the anti-terrorist unit in the Basque province of Vizcaya, was arrested along with two other high-level police

The investigating magistrate, Judge Baltazar Garzon, has charged them with attempted murder, kidnapping and the misuse of public funds. The charges link Mr. Sancristobal directly to the death squads known as Anti-Terrorist Liberation Groups, known as GAL, which hunted down and killed 23 people in shootings and bombings in southwestern France from 1983 to 1987. Imprisoned without bail, the three are to stand trial within two years.

The victims were suspected of links to the Basque terrorist organization ETA.

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Although some of those killed were pre-sumed leaders of the organization, othincluding several French citizens, had no connection to the separatists.

The indictment was based on evidence provided this month by two former policemen, José Amedo and Michel Dominguez, who were convicted in 1991 for conspiracy to murder in six killings linked to the death squads. Mr. Amedo and Mr. Dominguez, each serving 108year sentences, were given parole after talking to the authorities.

The death squad attacks ended four years later when the French authorities began to collaborate in rounding up suspected Basque terrorists for extradition to Spain and after the policy of granting political asylum to suspected guerrillas

Since its founding in 1968, the separatist organization has killed nearly 750 people, many of them law-enforcement and army officials, in its fight for independence for the three northern Basque provinces of Alava, Guipuzcoa and Vizaya. In the last year, the number of killings attributed to the group has dropped to fewer than a half-dozen. While all politicians denounce state

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ism, the latest developments have provoked a national debate over the killings.

"Any time democracy is in serious danger, I believe the state must react to maintain democracy," Juan Carlos Ro-driguez Ibarra, the Socialist president of the western Estremadura region, told a local radio station. "In 1983 and '84 we had to bear a situation of more than 100 deaths a year carried out by ETA, and it is not fair to judge the creation of GAL. by the perspective of 10 years later."

Denouncing the justifications and ra-tionalizations of some Socialist leaders as "dangerous," the Basque Nationalist Party president of the Basque region, José Antonio Ardanza, warned at a news conference that "a state of law can never justify criminal behavior to combat ter-

But for José Manuel Sanchez Fornet. the general secretary of the United Police Union, "there was no legal way to fight against ETA in 1983." He told reporters that "if if were not for GAL, France never would have begun to collaborate with Spanish justice by extraditing ETA suspects and would still be giving them political asylum status.".

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## ISRAEL: Bomber Kills Only Self

Continued from Page 1 toward another bus after being turned away. "Some kind of accident" with the detonator, he said, set off the bomb before he

"It was very lucky that it hap-pened here and at that time," General Amit said.

Mr. Olmert, who made a close inspection of the man's remains, spoke afterward with grim satisfaction. "No doubt the fact that his body is shattered, rather than others, is the preferred result," he said. Of the 13 people known to be injured, hospital officials said

only two - including a Pales-tinian named Abdallah Rasher - were in serious condition. Eight of the wounded were treated and released immedi-

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Among the lightly injured

old American student at the University of Michigan. Traffic ground to a standstill for hours, in Tel Aviv as well as :

Jerusalem, as the police mount-

ed security checks

Hamas and Israeli police. identified the bomber as Iman Kamel Radi, 21, of the Gazz Strip town of Khan Yunis. Until last week, according to witnesses there, he was a traffic. policeman. Spokesmen in Israel-and the Palestinian Authority said they were investigating that report and could not confirm or deny it.

Marwan Kanafani, a spokes man for Mr. Arafat, said the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization "condemns such a criminal act, especially as it took place on Christmas, the holiest of the was Sara Greenberg, a 20-year-days for Christians."

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# THE AMERICAS /

2 Murdoch Executives Defend Gingrich

NEW YORK — Senior executives of two corporations controlled by Rupert Murdoch have come to the defense of Representative Newt Gingrich in the continuing dispute over a ship in Gulf

the Georgia Republican's \$4 million book contract.

In letters to Representative David E. Bonior of Michigan, the Democrat who will become the minority whip when Mr. Gingrich becomes the speaker of the House in January, the executives repeated that the deal was made without Mr. Murdoch's involvement and was not intended to influence the Federal Communications Commission in its dealings with the Fox television network, which Mr. Murdoch also controls. Mr. Bonior has demanded an inquiry into Mr. Gingrich's

deal, suggesting it was "a S4 million Christmas gift from Mr. Jack McKeown, publisher and senior vice president of the adult trade group of Harper Collins, which won the bidding last week for two books from Mr. Gingrieh, said in his letter

to Mr. Bonior: "The decision to pursue this book was a pure publishing judgment. It was based on our perception of the commercial potential for a serious nonfiction work that captured the pobtical philosophy of Congressman Gingrich at a time when the political landscape in this country was undergoing a major transformation."

Mr. McKeown wrote that Harper Collins bad three competitors in the bidding. "All offered a royalty advance at the multimillion dollar level, and our winning offer was less than 10 percent over the underbidder."

The second letter to Mr. Bonior was sent by Preston Padden, president for network distribution of Fox Broadcasting Co., who asserted, "Those of us at Fox are not involved with the Harper Collins deal."

#### A Plan to Chop Congressional Chaplains

WASHINGTON - It has been tradition that Congress have its own full-time chaplains - one for the House and one for the Senate - paid to open each session with a prayer. Now — from the "Isn't Anything Sacred?" Department some Republican budget slashers are talking of cutting the

\$289,000 spent on salaries for the chaplains and their assistants and using volunteer clergy instead. But the chaplain of the Senate is urging them to discard the plan. The Reverend Richard C. Halverson said there was "no

way" a local pastor could identify with the personal needs of the legislators, as well as of "their families and the staff, and their hurts and needs and burdens and frustrations, without being here all the time."

In deciding the chaplains' future, the conservative Republican majority could find itself torn: Should it cut perks wherever possible, or preserve Congress's most visible living symbol of religious piety?

The average American worker doesn't have access to a taxpayer-funded chaplain to lead a prayer at the beginning of every workday," said Barry W. Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. "If the new Republican leadership is serious about reform, let's see them ditch this relic and plow that \$259,000 into deficit reduction or use it for some worthy social program." (WP)

#### Quote/Unquote

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Robert Gallo, chief of the National Cancer Institute's laboratory of tumor biology and a leading AIDS researcher. on the frustrations of working for the federal government: "Government scientists used to be the golden boys, but those days are over. Government is a bad guy today. And no wonder. Do you know how I have to spend my time now? I have to go to a course on sexual harassment. I have to go to a managers' course. I have to go to courses to learn how to go to courses. Boy, have things changed." (WP)

### **Away From Politics**

 Edward Leary, the man charged with firebombing a New York subway, has denied from his hospital bed that he caused the blast that injured 48 people, his attorney said. (AFP)

• William Randolph Hearst III ended a chapter in American newspaper history by saying that he would step down as publisher of The San Francisco Examiner, the paper his grandfather used as the building block of the Hearst empire. (NYT)

• A father is suing a department store chain after baving to change his 15-month-old son on a wet wasbbasin in the men's room of a New York store, a daily reported. The women's bathroom there has a diaper-changing table, but the men's room, like most American rest rooms for men, does not. (AP) • The Food and Drug Administration has approved the first

AIDS test that uses saliva - instead of blood - to determine whether a person has been infected by the virus. But it warned that the saliva test is less accurate than current tests. (LAT) • A convicted shunlord has begun serving 60 days of house arrest in a run-down Los Angeles apartment bouse he owns after having failed to comply fully with a court order to make

long-needed repairs. • A federal judge in California has became the first to enforce a section of the Clean Water Act that requires public agencies to reduce the levels of solvents, lawn chemicals and heavy metals that flow into waterways.

### Romanians Mark Ceausescu Death

, gruntled ex-Communists, brav-ing icy rain Sunday, met at a grave said by some to contain the remains of the former ruler Nicolae Ceausescu to commemorate his death and complain about falling living standards.

We must praise be and are standards. he did not allow some to become millionaires in two years' beggars, as it happens now," time and others to turn into

a socialist monthly paper near the grave at Ghencea cemetery.

Mr. Ceausescu led Romania for 24 years before he and his wife were arrested, summarily tried and executed on Christmas Day 1989. Though it is un-certain whose body lies beneath the wooden cross bearing his picture, dozens of Ceausescu supporters continue to visit the site.

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# Q & A: Under the Republicans, Only Changes in Emphasis

William Kristol is a prominent mem-ber of the conservative Republican brain trust in Washington. He is former chief of staff to Vice President Dan Quayle and now heads the Project for the Republican Future. He discussed foreign policy with Paul F. Horvitz of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. How do you foresee U.S. foreign policy changing with the arrival of the Republican majority in Congress in

A. I don't think there will be dramatic changes. Republicans have argued for years that Congress should not micromanage foreign policy, that the executive has to take the lead. Even though we don't think very highly of some aspects of President Clinton's leadership, I think we will resist the temptation to try to run American foreign policy from the Congress.

There will be changes in emphasis: in defense spending, an attempt to re-energize the strategie defense program, and greater skepticism of U.S. deference to multilateral institutions.

Q. How would you urge Republi-cans to get the president back on the leadership track you prefer?

#### MONDAY O&A

situation where there aren't clear NATO? guideposts. We have avoided most of the medium and long term, quite dan-

Q. Republicans seem to want to place greater emphasis on American some harm. strength and power and sovereignty. Is

crats in the conduct of U.S. foreign cans on that.

Being more nationalist and being committed to a strong military just in spend billions more on strategie decase it's needed and more committed fense? committed to a strong military just in to defending the country — all those A. Because there are nuclear weap in the world. People abroad should things don't tell you whether we ons abroad in the world and there are enjoy Jesse Helms. He's an American should intervene in a particular situa- means of delivering them. If Saddam original.

A. I don't know how much Republicans can do to make Bill Clinton a publican Party will be less deferential more effective or disciplined or more to international institutions and more under the capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity to deliver them to the Current Current Country of the Capacity Current Current Current Country of the Capacity Current Curre

Q. Would you advise the Republi- did in the Gulf. cans to take any significant steps with regard to the United Nations or

A. I think Republicans should take a the major disasters. But in Bosnia and hard look at a lot of the multilateral Korea and other areas, I think we have institutions, including the United Nahad a combination of rhetorical blustions, but also including a lot of interter and practical weakness that is, over national financial institutions, including ing the World Bank. There are good arguments that a lot of the money

NATO is different. It's a military alliance and it has done a lot of good A. I think that is quite a good way to over the years. Rethinking NATO for describe it. The Republican Party will the future is obviously a huge task and taken? be more nationalist than the Demo-there's no consensus among Republi-A. H.

purposeful leader. He is who he is. To concerned with promoting U.S. inter-be fair to Bill Clinton, he's grappling ests, however understood. The is who he is. To concerned with promoting U.S. inter-befair to Bill Clinton, he's grappling ests, however understood. The interview we would have been able to intervene in the way we with a post-Cold War world, a new O. Would you advise the Republi-

The United States is a wealthy nation and it can afford to spend more than 3 percent of its GNP on defense if

Q. Do you think there is an emerging difference between the two parties in the perception of the vital national interests of the United States? A. No. There are differences within both parties and among the American people as a whole.

Q. How seriously should Senator Jesse Helms, the incoming chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, be

A. He's a serious United States senator but be's one of 100. The good news is that the bulk of the Republican Q. Why should the United States Party in the Senate has a bealthy combination of hard-headed realism and commitment to American engagement in the world. People abroad should

A. I'm skeptical. If there's a solid peace, there's a solid peace. I have an objection to U.S. troops serving as a tripwire in general. We'll never have enough troops there to defend our-

selves or to defend anyone else.

Q. What is your view on Bosnia? A. The Clinton administration bas given us the worst of both worlds: a lot strong talk and weak action, which is very bad policy. I have been pretty consistently anti-interventionist on Bosnia, but I now wonder if I was wrong and whether we are going to pay a pretty high price for Western passivity and inaction. If the United States always halts before doing anything because of the complexities and the risks, we will end up with a world that's increasingly chaotic and unstable and

unfriendly to our long-term interests. There's a certain sense in the United States that American impotence is an awfully bad thing. But there's also a certain risk-aversiveness among the American people. The working out of that tension is going to be an important aspect to the next two years.

# North Korea's Refusal To Free Flier on Holiday Seen as Diplomatic Blow

and went without North Korea an diplomats that an unreason-releasing a captured U.S. Army helicopter pilot, dealing a diplowould compound the difficulhelicopter pilot, dealing a diplo-matie blow to the Clinton ad-

After a day of tense waiting in anticipation that the North Pyongyang, Koreans might show some holiday goodwill by freeing Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall, the only news offered by the of the nuclear deal, used that U.S. side Sunday was that a meeting had taken place with mid-level North Korean mili-tary officials at the Korean War truce village of Panmunjom. Mr. Hall's helicopter was downed Dec. 17 in North Kore-

an territory. for the U.S. military in South

Mr. Hall's detainment continued despite repeated, high-released "very soon." level expressions of bope from captors would release him by Christmas. To induce North Korean cooperation, the ad-ministration authorized a letter to be sent Saturday to the North Korean authorities from General Gary Luck, commander of the 37,000 U.S. forces stationed here, expressing regret that Mr. Hall's helicopter had strayed across the border with South Korea because of a navigational error.

The North's refusal to rebad expected was not only an House, but may represent trouble for Mr. Clinton's policy to-ward the hermetic, Communist regime as well as the agreement struck in October to end Pyongvang's atomic weapons pro-

Even before the helicopter incident, the administration was facing problems persuading skeptics in Congress to support the nuclear deal, under which North Korea would gradually dismantle its atomic bomb development in exchange for a BUCHAREST (AP) — Dissial Aurora Dobriga, who sells U.S. pledge to arrange for

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**East** 

By Paul Blustein
Washington Past Service
SEOUL — Christmas came
So U.S. officials have been remonstrating both publicly and privately with North Koreties of implementing the nuclear deal and achieving warmer ties between Washington and

> Representative William B. Richardson, Democrat of New Mexico, a key House supporter argument last week when he

It was Mr. Richardson who initially raised hopes that Mr. Hall would be freed by Christmas. He persuaded the North "We're continuing to work Koreans to repatriate the body through processes which we of Mr. Hall's crewmate who bope will lead to a senior offi-died in the incident, Chief Warcials-level meeting very quick-ly," said Jim Coles, spokesman and be also emerged from North Korea on Thursday claiming to have received assurarices that Mr. Hall would be

Mr. Richardson said the administration officials, includ- North Koreans had not com ing President Bill Clinton, that mitted themselves to letting Mr. the serviceman's North Korean Hall go by Christmas, but he captors would release him hy said he believed they would respond favorably to his exhortations to do so.

The fact that North Korea has not used the opportunity afforded by Christmas to cultivate U.S. goodwill has heightened concern among some analysts that the enigmatic Pyongyang regime lacks a firm hand to keep policy headed in a sensible direction.

Under this theory, Kim Jong II, son of the late "Great Leadspond as the administration er" Kim Il Sung, is either too sick or too weak pobtically to embarrassment for the White force the hard-line military to end its investigation of the helicopter incident and release Mr. Hall promptly.

Rumors have long swirled that Kim Jong II suffers from debilitating illnesses.
The fact that North Korea

has been dragging its feet in releasing Mr. Hall could mean that Kim Jong Il's hold on power is "not that complete," said Lee Dong Bok, a visiting fellow at South Korea's Research Institute for National Unification, adding that the incident provided some of the strongest evidence yet "that North Korea is a divided bouse."

In this Tuesday's

Herald Eribune



WHITE HOUSE MATERIAL - Mike McCurry, the State Department spokesman, fielding a question. He becomes the presidential press secretary in January.

# House Republicans Seek A Curb on Federal Rules

By John H. Cushman Jr.

New York Times Service WASHINGTON -- House Republicans are preparing to push quickly next year for legislation that would radically restrict the government's ability to regulate everything from car

safety to wilderness protection. They have pledged a vote within the first 100 days of the new congressional session on legislation that would increase the ability of groups affected by regulations to challenge them before they take effect or are even formally proposed.

For the first time, analyses of costs and benefits prepared in the initial phase of drafting regulations would be subject to review by outside experts, and these analyses could be challenged in court.

The proposal would also drive down the overall burden on business and state and local governments by creating a regulatory "budget" — a specific double negatives and "contains ceiling on the costs of complying with all federal regulations. as practical."

The ceiling would be steadily reduced, and Congress would agree not to pass laws whose costs would exceed the ceiling.

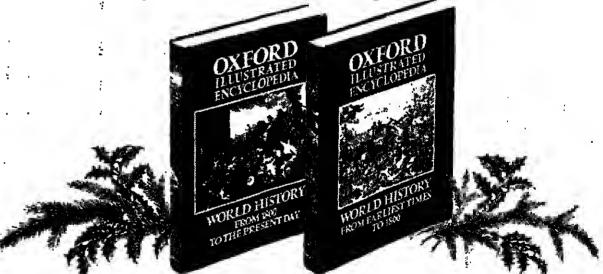
If adopted, the Republican proposals would fundamentally alter the workings of agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency and affect matters like the Transportation Department's pending decision about wbether to require anti-lock brakes on passenger cars.

The proposals are the latest salvo in a decades-long struggle between Democrats and Republicans over the government's power to make rules.

The bill's basic approach is to limit the scope of regulations by imposing detailed strictures on the rule-makers themselves.

It includes, for example, one paragraph that bars any rule from being published for public comment unless the director of the Office of Management and

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# Peace for Ireland?

It has been traditional, during the long years of strife in Northern Ireland, for the Irish Republican Army to declare a truce at Christmas. For a few days in the holiday season, Catholics and Protestants in Belfast and the rest of the province could shop for presents, visit relatives and go to church with some assurance that they wouldn't be blown up at a holiday party or sbot on the way to services. Welcome as they were, however, the truces were always limited, and as the Christmas trees were taken down,

the guns were taken up again. This year, everything is different. The cease-fire to which both the IRA and the Protestant paramilitary forces have agreed has held. And the prospects for permanent peace look better than they have for a quarter of a century. The process surely is slow, for even the most dramatic breakthroughs bave been correctly characterized as mere steps toward reconciliation.

There have been setbacks — a couple of shootings early on and a bomb, discovered and defused only last week. There was also time lost while the Irish Republic changed governments earlier this month, and a terrible gaffe when

former Prime Minister Alfred Reynolds revealed some confidential information after leaving office. None of this though appears to have thrown the peacemakers permanently off course.

John Bruton, the new Irish prime minister, is from a different party than his predecessor, but he has committed himself to the peace process and already has taken steps to move that effort forward. Dick Spring, the socialist leader and coalition partner in both the Reynolds and the Bruton governments, remains a critically important player. And in London, where a Christmas free of IRA bomb threats must be welcome, Prime Minister John Major's govern-

ment has been committed and steadfast. In other parts of the world, war, suffering and deprivation continue with a relentlessness that almost defeats bope. But when this year began the turmoil in Northern Ireland also was thought to be just about insoluble.

Now, in this one corner of northwestern Europe, the people of two island nations can realistically look forward to a new year of peace, and its concomitant

blessing, prosperity. -THE WASHINGTON POST.

# No Italian Alternative

Italy's prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi, has resigned - which is all to the good. The bitter enmittes within his peculiar coalition had long since paralyzed his government. Mr. Berlusconi thinks that the next step ought to be immediate elections. Not everyone agrees.

Looking back to the last elections in March, and particularly to the uses to which Mr. Berlusconi put the television stations that he owns, some Italians conclude that there is going to have to he reform of the election laws before Italy goes to the polls again.

This time the Italian crisis is real and profound. It is essentially a reaction to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Western Communist parties. From the end of World War II until a few years ago, Italian politics was continuously dominated by the Christian Democratic Party. The major opposition was the Communist Party, the largest in West-em Europe. Over time, the Christian Democrats, like all parties in power too long, became cynical and corrupt. But most Italians stuck with them and their allies, the Socialists, turning a blind eye to their transgressions, on grounds that to weaken them in any way invited a Communist takeover.

All that changed when the Soviet Union disintegrated. Within weeks, Italy's judiciary had opened prosecution of political corruption cases that, by now.

have implicated several thousand politicians and businessmen. Outraged Italian voters in the March elections swept away the whole traditional structure. But they knew more clearly what they were against than what they were for. Mr. Berlusconi's winning coalition was a colorful and unstable mixture of newcomers including, among others, neofascists. Meanwhile, the Christian Democrats and the Communists, bumiliated, have both changed their names in an

attempt to escape from their pasts. That is the dilemma. The parties are going through a spectacularly chaotic reorganization of leadership and ideas. Until the choices get clearer, it is hard to see bow an Italian election could produce a government with much real authority. But in the meantime somebody has to govern the country. Mr. Berlusconi ran in March as a man above tawdry conventional politics, untouched by the payola scandals. But last month the magistrates notified him that he was under investigation for bribery involving his gigantic business operations, and this month be was called in for questioning.

The great defect of Italian democracy bas always been its inability to provide attractive alternatives to unsatisfactory and unpopular governments. That is as true today as it was when the Communist threat was at its peak.

- THE WASHINGTON POST.

# Mexico's Devaluation

Mexico's decision to let the peso plum met about 30 percent last week roiled bond and stock markers and burt Mexico's credibility with international investors. Critics of NAFTA, the free trade accord between the United States, Mexico and Canada, chimed in with the proposition that the peso's fall would turn bilateral trade against the United States, thereby vindicating their opposition to open trade. Much of the criticism is unwarranted. President Ernesto Zedillo, who took office only three weeks ago, had little choice; as foreign reserves dwindled, he could no longer afford to spend hillions propping up the value of the peso. And although his decision angered many foreigners, whose investments plummeted in value along with the peso, Mexican economic policy remains sound. If Mr. Zedillo manages the economy well, last week's misfortunes need not impair long-term growth. Finally, there is no substance to the notion that the falling peso vitiates the benefits of NAFTA.

Letting the peso float - despite government promises to the contrary comes as no great surprise. Mexico has run trade deficits for years, which raised fears that the peso would eventually have to fall to balance the books. But govern-ment policy kept the peso stable as a good way to fight inflation and reassure foreigners that their investments would be safe. The strategy was to count on steady inflows of foreign investment to raise the productivity of domestic industry. Over time, exports would rise and

eliminate the trade imbalance. The strategy, although plausible, was cut short because Mexico ran out of reserves. Investors, fearful of devaluation, fled the peso. That left Mr. Zedillo a choice between defending it by raising interest rates, thereby throwing his economy into recession, or devaluing so that Mexico could close the trade deficit by exporting more and importing less.

He made the proper choice. Still, for the medicine to work, the Zedillo administration will bave to tighten its budget and postpone promised new social spending. That, along with the likeli-bood of temporarily slower growth rates, is worrisome at a time of contin-

ued political instability. There are reasons why foreign investors will not be permanently disaffected. Mexican market reforms, for instance, are on track; they have already brought inflation down from 160 percent to under 10 percent and balanced the federal hudget. Investors will watch carefully what Mr. Zedillo does from here on. If, for example, domestic businesses take advantage of the depreciated currency - which makes foreign imports more expensive to raise wages and prices, then the benefit

of depreciation will go for naught.

Critics of NAFTA point to the fact that President Zedillo is counting on a lower peso to price U.S. exports out of the Mexican market and lower the cost of Mexican goods to U.S. consumers. That, they say, will eliminate the U.S. bilateral trade surplus and eliminate U.S. jobs.

But the argument makes little sense. The purpose of trade is not to raise employment - which the Federal Reserve now controls - or rack up surpluses. Its purpose is to steer workers into high-productivity jobs: into computer and software production and out of textiles. The United States comes out ahead under NAFTA no matter what happens to the bilateral trade balance.

The spectacle of a new government pledging one policy one week and doing something completely different the next is not pretty. And Mexican consumers will suffer from higher prices of foreign goods. But the alternative - prolonged recession - would have been worse. Mexico can survive last week's turmoil and prosper.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.



KATHARINE GRAHAM. ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER

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TONDON - It is no longer a war about an obscure corner of the Caucasus called Chechnya. It is a war about the credibility of Boris Yeltsin, the politics of post-Communist Russia and the size of the ideological gap between post-

Communist Russia and the West. By sending the Russian army into Chechnya, it is now painfully clear, President Yeltsin has put at risk both his authority inside Russia and what most people had until now assumed to be his foreign policy.

His decision is opposed by most of Russia's Parliament, by many of Russia's journalists and by a large part of the Russian army itself. This opposition will almost certainly grow if he does not win the war quickly.

But a quick victory will very likely have to be a bloody one, for the Chechens and pechaps the Russian army, too, and that will be equally unpopular. The people are for the first time seeing a Russian war honestly reported in their newspapers and on their television screens.

The small group of men around Mr. Yeltsin who encouraged him to move into Chechnya - above all the defense minister, General Pavel Grachev, and the boss of the president's personal guard, the ex-KGB General Alexander Korzhakov - share this harsh responsibility. They share, that means, its risk but also the glinting hope of greater power it opens up for the pro-war faction. The By Brian Beedham

risk is that failure will hurt them at least as much as it burts Mr. Yeltsin. They will presumably be the first scapegoats he offers up if things go wrong and he sets out to ensure his own political survival.

But success, even a bloody success, will tilt the balance of power inside the Russian establishment in favor of such men. The presidency will be even stronger in relation to Parliament than it is now. Of the people around the president, those who urged him into Chechnya will loom even larger over those who besitated, or resisted. Since Generals Grachev and Korzhakov are notoriously rough-edged fellows, that bodes ill, to put it gently, for

the civility of Russian politics. This should give pause to those in the West whose first reaction to the invasion of Chechnya was to offer their blessing to Mr. Yeltsin's adventure. So should two other implications of what he has done.

It is true that Chechnya is at present legally a part of the Russian Federation. But for Western democrats that is not the end of the argument. The West believes in self-determination. A group of people are entitled to change their legal status — to become independent — if they form a recognizable entity, if they make their desire for change plain, and if there are

enough of them to be taken seriously. The Chechens, on current evidence,

pass those tests. Their claim to indepen-dence seems as good as, say, the claim of Irisb Catholics to independence from

England 80 years ago. Those who then opposed the independence of Ireland tended to dismiss the Irish as a marginal and unruly lot. Those who are now similarly dismissive of the Chechens ought... to examine their historical consciences. The arguments they use to explain wby Chechnya should continue to belong to Russia would have Dublin still under

rule from London. The other consequence of the attack on Chechnya is what it will do to the Russian economy.

Mr. Yeltsin's promise to cut Russia's budget deficit savagely in 1995 - a promise on which depends the backing of the International Monetary Fund and therefore the prospect of more Western help for Russia — was already looking rather hollow. The direct military cost of the Chechnya operation, and the indirect costs that will be added to the pile if Mr. Yeltsin in effect bas to buy his army's loyalty, make even a semi-balanced budget look still more unlikely.

The longer the fighting goes on, the worse the economic effect will be. The IMF's blessing for the 1995 budget must now be in real doubt.

And if the Chechnya operation fails? Grozny can probably be bombed and besieged into surrender; the raging Chechen army may be unable to fight an

orthodox war. But it is still entirely possible that the Russians will find themselves entangled in a long, costly and humiliating guerrilla campaign in the mountains of southern Chechnya and, perhaps, in other parts of the Caucasus, too. The Russian army could split. Mr. Yeltsin may have to call an embarrassed halt to the whole business.

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The political effects of this could go well beyond a mere rearrangement of power inside the present Russian establishment. Mr. Yeltsin would face the combined hostility of those who reckoned that this war should never have been fought, the nationalists who backed the war but would accuse him of having botched it, and an angrily alarmed and divided army. He might then not be able to save himself by offering scapegoats. His hold on the presidency would be in peril. And if Mr. Yeltsin fell, speculation about what would follow him makes the imagination boggle.

This is not a crisis in a far-off country about which Westerners need to know nothing. The fight over Chechnya draws bemused eyes to the distance that Russia still has to travel before it can claim to be either a stable democracy of a power whose view of the world fits in with that of the West. This distant conflict at Christmastime holds higger les-sons than most Western politicians yet seem to have realized.

International Herald Tribune.

# Bashing the Wealthy Won't Salvage Many Votes for the Democrats The premise is as politically

By Charles Krauthammer

WASHINGTON -- The Dem-W ocrats' race to catch up with the Republican revolution has taken two forms. President Bill Clinton, tacking right, offers kinder, gentler Gingrichism. The House Democrats, their rudder stuck on orthodox liberalism, offer some-

thing far more interesting.
The House Democratic leader, Dick Gephardt, countered the Republicans' middle-class tax cut (and preempted his president) with one of his own. What was interesting was not his lateblooming postelection concern for the middle class. It was the way he couched his counterproposal. The Republican tax cut was for everyone making up to \$200,000 a year. His stops at \$75,000. The Republicans, thundered Representative Gephardt, keep favoring the rich. The Democrats are the party of the little guy. As a ploy for an orthodoxy that

has entirely run out of ideas, this is not a bad try. It coattails nicely on Republican pandering to the middle class, with the added punch of class warfare. Mr. Gep-

only class warfare he knows: antirich. And it doesn't work. One reason for the current conservative ascendancy is its

grasp of a fundamental truth about the American middle class: It may harbor the occasional envy-tinged resentment of the rich, but what class animus it has is directed against the poor. That is why at the top of everyone's list for reform - and at the

top of the Clintonites' list of missed political opportunities is welfare. In any national survey, what Americans imagine is spent on welfare is usually wildly out of proportion with what in fact is spent. This is a reflection of bow deeply those who (as Mr. Clinton likes to put it) work hard and play by the rules resent those who don't and earn a taxpayer-funded paycheck for their nonlabors. Victorian England drew a

sharp distinction between two classes of poor, the "deserving"

hardt's problem, however, is that like most bberals he plays the cans. And they think there are more of the latter than the former. The latest New York Times-CBS News poll shows that more Americans think the poor are poor because of a lack of effort than because of circumstances beyond their control. Which is wby by a margin of 4 to 1 they

want to cut welfare. Americans are quite prepared to carry the deserving poor: the disabled, the involuntarily unemployed, the widowed, the divorced, the abandoned (for whom the welfare program was originally intended). But not the undeserving poor, those who can work but don't and especially those who earn the automatic right to a government stipend by dint of a single act of personal irresponsibility: bearing children that the mother can't and the father won't support.

Part of the Republican success in the political revolution of 1994 was narnessing middle-class resentment of the undeserving

poor. Against which House Democrats would like to deploy resentment of the rich. Bad choice. In the battle of resentments, the Democrats lose.

The middle-class attitude toward the rich is far more complex and, in the end, benign. Its most salient characteristic is simple fascination. "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" is not just an endlessly replayed hit television show. It is the theme of every other magazine cover in America, In the least class-bound, most socially mobile society in the Western world, class resentment against the rich is hard to fan. Do people resent Bill Gates or even Donald Trump? In America, the middle classes don't hate the rich; they want to join them.

The liberal demonization of the rich finds its ultimate expression not in Washington but in Hollywood. Television and film dramas have an amazing tendency to attribute violent crime not to the usual suspects - desperate lowlife but to shadowy, nefarious (usually white male) executive types.

correct as it is wildly improbable. The truth, alas, is that crime is generally an occupation of the poor. For obvious reasons. They need the money. And when the well-off do commit crimes, it is usually the white-collar variety, not the street crime that so ternfies the ordinary citizen.

People feel far differently about the accountant who embezzles than the thug who breaks into their car or holds them up for cash. Indeed, the very rarity of violent crime among the rich helps explains the national fixation on the O. J. Simpson case.

In a society as fluid as America's, it is not smart politics to base one's appeal on any kind of class warfare. But to base it on a resentment of the rich in particular, as Mr. Gephardt and old-guard Democrats would like, is even dumber. Who, after all, is more of a threat? The guy ahead of you, the one you are trying to catch up with? Or the guy behind you, the one who wants what's yours?

Washington Post Writers Group.

# Today's Class Bout: Here the Gifted Few, There the Unskilled Many

NEW YORK — According to the wisdom of America's new right, the reader and I are John D. Rockefeller's time, they ing redundant, by being passed both out of touch. People who peruse newspaper editorials rather than listen to bluster radio form part of a cultural clite that doesn't understand the bopes and hates of ordinary Americans.

It isn't just those crocodile tears we shed for the undeserving poor or our prissy insistence on separating church and state that puts us out of touch. Our very existence is offensive and threatening.

Popular resentment against elites is an old story in America, perhaps as old as the nation itself. But the story twists and turns as the clite changes.

In Andrew Jackson's time, the hated elite were landowners. In

were industrialists. Today, no one would think Sam Walton an elitist. Instead of great wealth, the new elite possesses rarefied skills. It has addresses on the Internet rather than on Fifth Avenue. It knows bow to do global as well as

Most Americans are shut out of this new world. Seventy percent of the adult population does not know how to use a computer; most high school graduates can-not read a train schedule; a large minority cannot reckon simple interest on a bill.

The elite thrives on change, the mass fears it. In a dynamic society, the mass of people are constantly threatened by becom-

By Richard Sennett by. All they

ness to work. The new economy needs the mass of these Americans less as producers or workers than as consumers. A new study by the Demos Institute, an opinion-research organization in London, hrings this divide into focus.

It shows a new attitude toward work among the young in Europe as well as America, a desire to work flexibly and individually, a loss of loyalty to corporations and a willingness to demand that employers make work more personally satisfying.
But only a fifth of young Amer-

icans have the training or skills to act on such desires. The other

four-fifths, who have no personal bargaining power, can only worry about getting some job, any job, even though they sbare the sentiments of the elite. Under such conditions, feel-

ings of inferiority become intensely personal. A snob doesn't appear to be someone who flings money about. Instead, unlike the ordinary person, be is confident that the future belongs to him. It is not surprising that young

men form the most conservative and anti-elitist segment of the population. They are in that cru-cible time of life when realities from McJobs and the necessity of living with one's parents in one's 20s to the prospect of three-job marriages - dim hopes for selfdetermination. As always, politics does sym-

bolic duty for fundamental changes. The fear of government grown out of control is like the photographic print of a social and economic negative - a print of the fear that economic growth portends threat rather than opportunity, that the average person is likely to be left out of the spoils. And this is a problem for us as

well as them — enlightened and well-intentioned bourgeois that we are. When accused of being an elite, we fndge. Those crocodile tears for the sufferings of others prove that we are in touch. In the certain-to-be-immortal words of our president, "I feel your pain." Others detect a certain condescension lurking in this sympathy.

Or we promise to use our skills to design solutions to make things better — public policy solutions graced almost with the complexity of modern art. In promising to

solve for the masses what they have not solved for themselves, we show we believe we are what they fear we are: more competent. Class has been the

of American history, denied by promises of individual freedom, hy dreams of noward mobility and by memories of solid communities and coberent families - memories that prove on inspection only to be recoveredmemory fantasies. The plain fact is that in a new

stage of capitalism, class divides Americans as ruthlessly as it did in the age of the Robber Barons. Politically, America has plunged into a new round of class warfare. As I age, my crystal ball dims,

but perhaps the only way to confront Newt Gingrich & Co. is to be honest rather than secretive about this warfare, for the right knows bow to make mincement of privileged people who are evasive or paternalistic.

Yes. America is a divided society, and a secure, confident future belongs only to the educated few. Now what?

The writer, professor of history and sociology at New York University, is author of "Flesh and Stone: The Body and the City in Western Civilization." He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unso-

### IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1894: Painting Survives

NEW YORK - Sir Thomas Lawrence's painting, entitled "Two Women," valued at \$11,000, fell from its easel at the Durand-Ruel galleries in New York this morning [Dec. 25], crashing through a plateglass window. It is a curious fact that the painting, which was uninsured and supposed to have been ruined, on examination was found absolutely unhurt while the insured window was shattered to atoms.

1919: Bath in the Seine

PARIS - The race for the Coupe de Noël, one of the most interesting of Paris swimming contests, took place yesterday [Dec. 25] at the Pont Alexandre. Eighteen swimmers reached the water head first at the same time. From beginning to end the race was Georges Pouilley's, champion swimmer and aviator. As he emerged from the water, Poulley was all smiles, and declared: The water is excellent"

### 1944: Anti-Semitism

PARIS — Several members of

the French Consultative Assembly have drafted a proposal urging the French government to proceed with the immediate dissolution of two associations, which are said to engage in anti-Semitic propaganda. These two associations, it is asserted, have been formed since the liberational of Paris and are regularly and legally constituted with committees conducting an extensive anti-Semitic propaganda. One of these bodies is said to be openly conducting a campaign to maintain the administrators of Jewish properties appointed in agreement with the Germans.

International Herald Tribune

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By Gregory Clark

Selective Protection Can Be Justified

COKYO - With the World Trade Organization due to start up on Jan. 1, the free trade versus protectionism dehate gains focus. But that debate is wrongly labeled. It should be called the crude protection ver-

sus selective protection dehate. Free traders oppose export subsidies and tariff protectionism, but they like floating ex-change rates. What they don't see to realize is that every time a country's exchange rate floats down by, say, 10 percent, every import-competing and export industry in that country gains protection equal to a 10 percent tar-iff or a 10 percent subsidy. It is

the crudest form of protection. Protection that offers tariffs and subsidies only to selected industries is clearly preferable.

This is not the only problem. Free traders like to quote 19th century theories on comparative advantage - England concentrates on producing textiles that it exchanges for Portugal's wine. Everyone gains. But 20th century economies of scale mean that it is now too easy for an efficient and aggressive exporter like Japan to end up producing and exporting the full range of products, from aircraft to textiles and, yes, even a kind of wine.

True, at some point the halancing mechanisms of floating exchange rates begin to swing into action. The aggressive exporter's currency appreciates to a level at which the country has no choice but to cut exports and to import more. A crude balance is restored.

But this leads to the problem

of time lags. It has taken more

than 20 years for the yen ex-

change rate to adjust to the reality of Japan's export power. A lot can happen in 20 years.

In the West, whole industries go out of production, skills disappear, the industrial base disintegrates, unemployment rises, tax revenues fall, welfare spending explodes, youth go on the dole, the social/economic fabric of the society unravels. The chances of a serious comeback

can easily be destroyed.
This problem is currently disguised by recoveries in the Western economies. But these consumer-led recoveries will not last long. Weak industrial bases lead to rising imports and inflation, which force up interest rates and choke off further growth.

The Australian economy, now boasting 6 percent growth as it roars out of prolonged recession, with its industrial base crippled by Asian competition and misguided free trade policies, is a case in point.

Some note the healthy recovery in neighboring New Zealand as a counterexample. But New Zealand also encouraged a raft of labor and other reforms to raise competitiveness. And it collapsed its exchange rate early, so that its wage levels are now lower than those of some

countries should upgrade their

economies to take advantage of

this new demand for imports.

they say. But the current trade

Asian competitors. The free traders note how lowlabor-cost developing countries expand imports as fast as they expand exports. The Western

figures show the flaw in this argument. The Western economies provide the export markets. Japan provides the imports.

And as yen appreciation makes imports from Japan more expensive, Taiwan and South Korea are poised to take over. It will probably be another 20 years before their currencies appreciate to the right level. By that time, another generation of dynamic Asian exporters

will be on the move.

Reciting the evils of 1930s protectionism is meaningless. Improvements in communications, technology transfer, economic management and direct foreign investment techniques now allow hackward economies to catch up with a speed that was impossible in the '30s. If everything is left to the delayed and crude protection offered by floating exchange rates, the Western economies will end up in a bopeless squeeze, caught between the advanced Asian economies at the top of the ladder and the developing econo-

mies moving up the ladder. The West need a breathing space. At the very least it should be using selective protection to preserve its industrial base and curb unemployment. One very fair, quick and efficient way of doing this is to force countries like Japan to produce locally the goods they export in such volume. If that is not enough, and Western economies have to resort to the crude protectionism of exchange rate shifts, then they should make sure that shifts come quickly, and not

with 20 year time lags. International Herald Tribune

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#### **BOOKS**

BOREDOM: The Literary History of a State of Mind By Patricia Meyer Spacks, 290 pages. \$24.95. University of Chicago Press.

Reviewed by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt

WHAT can there possibly be to say about horedom, which is surely one of the oldest of human emotions, certainly one of the least useful of feelings and simple enough to define as the state of mind arising from the absence of anything to arrest the attendon? In her new book, "Boredom: The Literary History of a State of Mind," Patricia

Meyer Spacks immediately con-tradicts these three assumptions. First, she points out that however ancient the feeling may in fact be, the words bere and boredom weren't used until the 18th century. Some of the reasons boredom arrived just then, she theorizes, were "the emergence of leisure," "the decline of orthodox Christianity" and "the newly elaborated no-tion of individual rights," implying, among other things, the

right not to be bored. Second, she celebrates boredom as "an impetus to achievement," citing among other testimonials a statement hy Nietzsche: "For thinkers and all sensitive spirits, boredom is that disagreeable 'windless calm' of the soul that precedes a happy voyage and cheerful winds. They have to bear it and must wait for its effect on them. Precisely this is what lesser nature cannot achieve by any means,"

Third, Spacks complicates the idea of boredom hy quoting a 1934 essay by the psycho-analyst Otto Fenichel, "The Psychology of Boredom," in which he calls horedom "a state of instinctual tension in which the instinctual aims are repressed hut in which the tension as such is felt; and therefore one turns to the external world for belp in the struggle against repression." Fenichel's definition proves useful to the author because it implies both an inner, or subjective, aspect to a person's experience of boredom

and an outer, or objective, one. So in her reading of literature from the 18th century to the 20th, Spacks is able to discern a shift in attitude from blaming subjective experience for boredom to ascribing it to the objective world. Another way she describes this shift is to call it a Times.

> John Tolansky, administrator of the Music Performance Research Centre at the Barbican

> Reader" by Arbie Orenstein. Correspondence to and by

Ravel, from Cocteau, Colette, Fauré, de Falla, Strauss and Stravinsky provide a colorful

portrait of a complex personality with political, sexual and per-

"change from a moralistic to a sociological view of boredom." Her project then becomes to document boredom's evolution in the last two and a half centuries, mainly in England, by reading "published writing — liction, poetry, conduct books, sociological and historical description, personal letters — by members of the white middle class." Her texts encompass every writer from Samuel Johnson through

Frances Burney and Jane Austen down to Donald Barthelme. But setting forth on this path, Spacks begins to stumble. Her analyses of lexts are so detailed and quirky that they are difficult to follow unless you have the books fresh in your mind.

Her focus seems to divide as she goes along, on the one band aiming at the important issue of how 19th-century English middle- and upper-class women filled their increasing leisure time, on the other hand concentrating on the extent to which reading and writing are ways of counteracting boredom. The narrative seems to become muddled over which of these threads it would prefer to follow and ends up tangling them

into a snarl. Finally, whatever objective Spacks is driving at becomes hopelessly obscure when she reaches the 20th century. In her readings of 20th-century writers like Henry James, T.S. Eliot, Evelyn Waugh, Gertrude Stein, Joho Berrymao, Barthelme, Saul Bellow and Anita Brookner, each case seems to stand by itself, diverging from or even contradicting the one that preceded it. Her prose grows contorted, sprouting sentences like "Boredom has become an embracing rubric of discontent" and "His insouciant bricolage

glories in arbitrariness." Most confusingly of all, when Spacks concludes that "20thcentury oovelists assume boredom as a point of reference, often taking it (as sociologists and journalists also tend to do) as the paradigmatic ailment of our time," she appears to have forgotten her earlier celebration of boredom as "an impetus to

If the author persuades us that the psychological root of boredom is conflict, she also convincingly demonstrates that the act of considering too many conflicting cases is finally one hesitates to say it - horing.

Christopher Lehmann-Haupt is on the staff of The New York

# (Margaret Kemp, IHT)

BRIDGE

WHAT THEY RE READING

By Alan Truscott

sonal problems."

Chands shown in the diagram, and plan the play as South in seven hearts after the lead of the spade ten. The opponents have done no bidding, and are aware that you have a singletoo spade.

The deal occurred in the final sessioo of the National Swiss Team Champiooship. Both teams reached the excellent seven-heart contract. In the diagrammed auction, with Mark Stein and Boris Baran sitting North and South, two no-trump promised a heart fit with slam interest, three spades showed shortness, and the response of five diamonds to four oo-trump showed three key cards - a modern variant of Roman Key-card

At both tables, a spade was led and dummy's ace won. Baran tested the trumps by leading dummy's king, and found that East had all those missing. He then tried to ruff both his cluh losers. But when he led to the club ace, ruffed a club, finessed the heart ten and ruffed the club ten, East was able to overruff.

In the replay, South led to the beart ace, cashed the club ace

and ruffed a cloh. He then OVER the East-West cashed the heart king, took the marked finesse of the ten, and drew the missing trump with the queen. He then led a diamond to the queen, with the slight hope of collecting the jack, and ruffed a spade with

his last trump. The club king was cashed and dummy's diamonds scored the last three tricks. The Stein-Baran team lost.

NORTH SOUTH (D)

North 2 N.T. 4 ♣ 5 ♥ 7 ♥

For investment information every Saturday . . .

### Zail Singh Is Dead at 78, President of India in '80s

CHANDIGARH, India — Zail Singh, 78, the first Indian president from the minority Sikh community, died Sunday, nearly a month after he was severely injured in an automobile accident.

Mr. Singh was president from 1982 to 1987, during the height of the 10-year Sikh rebel-lion for independence in the northern state of Punjab. The militants maintained that Sikhs were discriminated against by majority Hindus.

In 1984, the Indian Army, acting on orders from Prime Mioister Indira Gandhi, stormed the Golden Temple in Amritsar, Sikhism's most sacred shrine, where rebel leaders had established their command

Mr. Singh was criticized by his own community for sup-porting Mrs. Gandhi, who was assassinated later that year by two of her Sikh bodyguards. Af-ter he left office, the president apologized to the Sikh commu-

Born May 5, 1916, in the village of Sandhwan in Punjab, Mr. Singh trained to become a Sikh priest. He joined the independence movement against British rule and later was a

#### 78,000 Immigrants Settle in Israel in 1994

Agence France-Presse JERUSALEM - Ahout 78,000 immigrants will have settled in Israel in 1994 by the end of December, officials announced Sunday. Uri Gordon, head of the Jew-

ish Agency's immigratioo departmeot, said that ahout the private secretary of Foreign 66,000 were from the former

gress (I) Party in Punjab.

He became a member of the federal Parliament in 1980 and was home minister until he was nominated by Mrs. Gandhi as the party's presidential candi-

Solomon Gaon, 82, Scholar And Sephardic Jews' Leader NEW YORK (AP) - Solo-

mon Gaon, 82, a world leader of Sephardic Jews and profes-sor of Sephardic studies at Ye-shiva University in New York City, died Wednesday at Mount Sinai Medical Center.

The cause was pneumonia, said Herbert Dobrinsky, a Ye-shiva vice president and a long-time associate.

At his death, Mr. Gaon was chief rabbi of congregations af-filiated with the World Sephardi Federation. He had been a professor at Yeshiva since 1976 and also founded and directed is Jacoh E. Safra Institute of Sephardic Studies.

J.C. (Jody) Bateman, 75, a former fiddler in the western swing group Boh Wills and the Texas Playboys, Tuesday in Kemp, Texas.

Robert Osborn, 90, a carica-turist, cartoonist and satiric commentator known for both his superior drawing ability and his sharp wit, Tuesday of complications from bone cancer.

Hans Herlin, 68, a best-selling German novelist whose best-known book was "Commentaries," of a heart attack Tuesday at his home in southern France.

Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, 85, a retired British diplomat who in the 1950s specialized in Middle Eastern affairs and served as Secretary Anthony Eden, Dec. 12 in Watlington, Oxfordshire.



Zail Singh, the first Sikh to become a president of India.

## Payment System Is Called Threat to Unicef Programs

UNITED NATIONS, New York — Auditors for Unicef. the United Nations Children's Fund, warn that development efforts in poor countries may be undermined hy a system in which relief agencies pay government officials to carry out programs that the agencies have already paid for.

"Io some countries where Unicef cooperates, the productivity of government officials tends to be low because of inadequate salaries, frequent delays

civil servants, thus making payments of incentives necessary, the auditors said after cooducting a routine biennial review of

But the auditors cautioned that while the payment of "salary supplements" might help achieve short-term goals, it was

dangerous in the long run.
The moment we pull out, programs implemented this way will collapse," said an international aid expert. Such payments are particularly per-

### Pope's Yuletide Message **Bemoans Strife in World**

VATICAN CITY - Pope John Paul II, appearing tired and frail, opened his tradicional Christmas message on Sunday with a tribute to families, then recited a mournful litany of the wars cutting a bloody swath across the world

"As I look at families in the light of Christmas, I cannot but turn my thoughts to the greater buman family, unfortunately torn by persistent forms of selfishness and violence," the Pope said from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica overlooking St. Peter's Square.

He cited the war "tearing apart the Balkans" as well as fighting in Russia, Angola and Rwanda

Then he turned to the hloodshed born of Islamic fundamentalism in parts of Africa and the Middle East.

"What are we to say of the Sudan with its 'forgotten' war and of Algeria, where murder-ous violence bolds the whole people hostage? And the very land where Jesus was born, does it not continue to be a theater of conflicts and a place of divi-

Earlier, about nine hours after he finished celehrating midnight Mass, the Pope returned to St. Peter's to lead the main Christmas Day service.

The Pope appeared tired and shuffled down the 300-foot main aisle. He has had problems walking since surgery to repair a hroken thigh bone earlier this year.

As be left the basilica, the Pope stopped to shake hands with children along the aisle and waved with his right hand, the small finger bandaged after being hurt by a closing car door

**■** Queen Calls for Peace Queen Elizabeth II expressed bope on Sunday for peace in Russia and praised peace ef-forts in Northern Ireland and policial changes in South Africa. Reuters reported from London on Sunday.

In her Christmas message to her subjects and to the 51-member Commonwealth, the queen said she would pray for peace around the world, especially in

She did not directly mention the fighting in Chechnya, but referred to her historic four-day visit to Moscow and St. Peters-burg in October and the television version of her address showed footage from the trip.

"This Christmas, as we pray for peace at home and abroad, oot least in Russia itself, we can also give thanks that such cathedrals and churches will be full and that the great bells, which greeted us, will be ringing out to celebrate our savior's birth," she said.

"I oever thought it would be possible in my lifetime to join with the Patriarch of Moscow and his congregation in a service in that wooderful cathedral in the heart of the Moscow Kremlin," the queen said.

She also referred to peace efforts in Northern Ireland, where guerrilla cease-fires have guaranteed the most peaceful Christmas season in 25 years, and changes in South Africa, which rejoined the Commonwealth this year after its first all-race elections.

"Last Christmas we were witoessing the signs of a new dawn after the long night of bitterness and this year these signs have become steadily stronger," she



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### CAPITAL MARKETS ON MONDAY

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# Peso Crisis Hurts Mexico's Prospects

By Tod Robberson Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Mexico's hopes for continued growth, falling inflation and strong foreign investor confidence have been dealt a severe blow by a currency crisis that devalued the peso by more than one-third last week.

Analysts in Mexico City and the United States said the crisis, although it had been brewing for some time, was touched off by the unexpected return of an armed rebellion in Chiapas by the Zapatista National Libera-

tion Army. The renewed uprising — and pictures of masked Indians standing guard at roadblocks in that impoverished Mexican state - added to international investors' skepticism about the rosy economic and social picture painted by government officials for 1995

That skepticism was reflected in, and fueled by, the peso's troubles, which in turn undermined Mexico's attempts to present itself as a stable trading partner heading for prosperity alongside the United States and Canada in the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Over the next year, roughly \$58 billion in high-interest Mexican treasury bills will come due - including \$20 billion over the next 100 days. According to the rules under which the treasury bills were issued, the buyer can convert the proceeds to dollars on demand — and that is the basis for much of the international

As recently as late November, then-President Carlos Salition regarding Mexico. nas de Gortari told American and Mexican investors that the Chiapas rebels had been tightly contained by what he called three circles — "one military. one economic and one political" -- and that there was virtually no chance of their rebellion spreading beyond a government-recognized enclave in the Lacandón jungle near the bor-

der with Guatemala. This month, the new president, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, reiterated Mr. Salinas's claims and promised that Chiapas would not return to the state of open warfare that embarrassed Mexico when the initial uprising broke out Jan. 1.

When the Zapatistas suddenreappeared Monday, the Mexico City stock market index plummeted, and there was a stampede for dollars at banks and exchange houses. That moved Treasury Secretary Jaime Serra Puche the next day to reverse a pledge to keep the peso's exchange rate firm at 3.45 to the dollar and agree to a

15 percent devaluation. On Wednesday, he removed limits on the exchange rate. Late Friday, the peso was quoted at 4.70 to the dollar, a rise of 36 percent in the dollar's value.

The uprising followed other signs of instability, such as two major political assassinations this year and kidnappings of prominent Mexican businessed international investment billion, less than half of what houses to counsel potential in- had been claimed.

Standard & Poor's Corp. 18peatedly postponed plans to raise Mexican debt to investment-grade status, and brokerage firms such as Merrill Lynch & Co. warned this year that the economic picture was not as promising as Mexican officials

were saying.
"What did they know that we didn't know?" a financial analyst in Mexico City asked. Whatever it was, they were

The analyst in Mexico City said international investors began showing signs of nervousness in October, around the time government officials were touring the United States with predictions of annual inflation below 5 percent, economic growth exceeding 4 percent and a resurgence in the peso's value.

As recently as Dec. 1, the date of Mr. Zedillo's inauguration, the government said reserves at Mexico's central bank stood at \$14 billion — more than enough to keep the peso stable.

"The numbers just did not add up. Many people are seri-ously upset with this entire sce-nario," the analyst said. "They feel they were handed a line that everything was fine. Obviously it's not. The attitude everywhere is like, "We're being had."

The analyst said the biggest warning sign for investors was an announcement by Mr. Serra Puche in mid-December that hard-currency reserves in the men, that already had prompt- central bank were actually \$6.5

"Chiapas was the detonator for this crisis, but it certainly wasn't the basis for it," this analyst said. "People are going crazy because they're realizing the

Her Some I

money just isn't in the central bank anymore." Economists also say that, with the steep peso decline, a return to double-digit inflation

is likely.

Fidel Velásquez, who heads a national labor union of more than 5 million members, urged the government last week to renegotiate a planned 10 percent increase in the minimum wage, due to take effect at the start of the new year, because he did not believe it would sufficiently compensate workers for the inflationary effects of the peso devaluation.

The devaluation also is expected to have ripple effects on the United States. Although it will make Mexican products cheaper and thus should lead to increased exports - and a narrower Mexican trade deficit it is unlikely that Mexican factories will greatly increase employment as a result.

Rather, Mexican workers will be increasingly likely to cross illegally into the United States to find work, given the fact that every dollar sent back to Mexico now will purchase far more pesos than it would have even one week ago.

In addition, the average Mexican's ability to purchase U.S. consumer goods is likely to drop, hurting U.S. exports

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THE TRIB

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# New Year's Celebrations Are Likely to Be Brief

NEW YORK - This week is expected to bring the credit markets a short respite as what analysts described as an "ugly" 1994 fades into a potentially equally troublesome new year.

Money flows are expected to be thin, with no reason for market participants to go out on a limb at the end of a year that saw the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond's yield shoot up from 6.34 percent on Dec. 31, 1993, to as high as 8.19 percent on Nov. 14.

The issue's yield closed at 7.83 percent Friday, compared with 7.85 percent a week carlier.

Few in the market were surprised when the Federal Reserve Board decided Tuesday not to push interest rates higher. But many said the central bank had only put off action until early 1995, and that conviction will probably keep the markets on edge for at least the first month of the year.

The Fed's sixth rate increase of the year came Nov. 15. Many analysts and market participants expect it to act again when its policy-making Open Market Committee meets Jan. 31 and Feb. 1.

Even though inflation as measured by

modest 2.7 percent for the first 11 months of the year, the same as for all of 1993, the Fed is concerned that the U.S. economy is growing enough to make inflation a prob-lem in the near future.

The Fed's goal is to slow the economy's growth to around 2.5 percent, which many of its members seem to regard as the optimum rate for noninflationary expansion.

#### U.S. CREDIT MARKETS

When the Treasury last week had to pay higher-than-expected yields to auction its new issues of two-year and five-year notes, an analyst called it "an ugly end to an ugly year" in the market.

There will be no more sales of long-term Treasuries until late January. On Tuesday. the Treasury is to sell \$13 billion each of three-month and six-month bills. Trading on a when-issued basis Friday, they were yielding 5.70 percent for the three-month and 6.53 percent for the six-month bills.

Even the market for federal funds, or overnight loans of reserves among U.S. banks, which saw wide swings at year-end during the middle 1980s, appears relatively stable this year, though that could still

The funds rate becomes volatile at the end of the year as the Federal Reserve Board struggles to estimate the reserves that will be needed in the monetary system as investors, portfolio managers and banks scramble for the funds needed to make year-end adjustments to their portfolios.

Kevin Flanagan, money market economist at Dean Witter Reynolds Inc., pointed out that this is the first time in five years in which the year-end scramble for funds will be taking taken place in an environment of Fed tightening. This, he says, will cause participants to try to lock in funds as soon as possible and tend to rule out any frantic final-day push.

Mr. Flanagan also said a net payment of \$33.65 billion by the Treasury on Thursday on maturing cash management bills and the fact that the just-auctioned twoyear and five-year notes have a settlement date of Jan. 3 instead of the usual Dec. 31 will help mitigate any squeeze on funds.

"People's expectations that it could be a tight year-end have evaporated," said Peter Kretzmer, an analyst with NationsBanc Capital Markets.

(Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg, WP,)

# Cadillac Fairview Gets a Shield From Creditors

TORONTO - Cadillac Fairview Inc. has filed for protection from creditors, just days after getting a reprieve from a com-

5.28 billion Canadian dollars based investment house sub-(\$4 billion).

Compiled by Paul Floren

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Judge Farley gave the Toron-to-based company, which owns subordinated debt for equity. Chapter 11 of the U.S. bankbuildings in Canada and the

other creditors they should concentrate on putting the company back on a "sound footing."

Goldman, Sacbs & Co., which owns about 28 percent of ny back on a "sound footing."

Goldman, Sacbs & Co., which owns about 28 percent of Cadillac's senior debt through a we found we just couldn't put it. Its properties include Pacific. closely held Cadillac's debt of bid. Last month, the New York- quoted as saying.

pulsory bankruptcy petition.

Judge James Farley, in approving the filing Friday, told lawyers representing the real estate concern, holders of its senior and subordinated debt and led talks with a third.

debt.

Company executives said cadillac on Monday pering process, that led to the filing process that led to the filing process.

The court approval is expect- real estate limited partnership, back in." a Cadillac Fairview Centre in Vancouver, Eaton ed to speed a restructuring of is expected to submit a revised spokesman, Patrick Howe was Centre in Toronto, the Galleria

mitted an initial proposal to the Companies' Creditors Ar-

buildings in Canada and the It was a move by Goldman, ruptcy code, which protects a United States, until Jan. 31 to which pushed Cadillac into company from creditor lawsuits propose a plan to restructure its debt.

Cannot be an extracture its bankruptcy court Monday to while it works out a plan to pay debt.

While it works out a plan to pay or refinance its debt.

nadian dollars for the year ended

in White Plains, New York, and Cadiliac will operate under the Esplanade in New Orleans. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

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5719	1997	<b>⅓</b> 8	100		Over 3-month Libor. Noncollable. Also \$41 million fixed-rate nates paying a semiamous 7.91%. Fees not disclosed. Denominations \$100,000. (J.P. Morgan Securities.)
FF 2,000	1997	_	_	_	issue spili in two equal tranches, one paying 6.30 over 3-month Libor and offered at 99.93, the ather one paying 8.50 over Libor and offered at 99.94. Noncalable. Fees 0.15%. Payable 1. Jan. (Credii Commercial de France.)
FF 1,500	1998	172	100		Over 3-month Pibor, within a defined range. Noncaliable. Fees not disclosed. Denomina 100,000 Francs. Payable in Jan. (Societé Générale.)
\$100	1995	zero	96.983	_	Yield 8.421%. Noncollable private placement. Also SST milison issued of 98.119. Fees no disclosed. Denominations \$250,000. (HSBC Markets.)
\$100	1997	zero	86.40	-	Yield 7.58%. Noncallable. Fees not disclosed. Payable in Jan. (Dalwa Europe.)
DM 250	1999	79/8	_		issue price not disclosed. Noncollable. Fungible with outstanding issue, raising total amount to 1 billion marks. Fees not disclosed. Payable in Jan. (Commercianic).
	(millions)  otes  \$250  \$719  FF 2,000  FF 1,500  \$100	(millions] 7832.  otes  \$250 1997  \$719 1997  FF 2,000 1997  FF 1,500 1998  \$100 1995  \$100 1997	(millions)	(millions) ************************************	Mat.   Price and week

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# INTERNATIONAL STOCKS

# After Some Dark Hours, Italy Sees Signs of Dawn

By John Tagliabue New York Times Service

OME - It was a week when Italians asked themselves whether they should be watching politics or the economy.

This time the two looked more inextricably linked than
they had been in a while. The ill-starred government of Silvio Berlusconi, the tycoon-turned-prime minister, was pulled down on Thursday by his squabbling coalition partners. On the same day that Mr. Berlusconi handed President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro his resignation, the governor of the Bank of Italy, Antonio Fazio, warned of a worsening financial situation, one marked by signs inflation was rising and that rates were pressing upward.

Yet, as Italians braced for a Christmas of uncertainties, the stock

market in Milan posted five consecutive sessions of recovery, after a slide that had seen equity Signals are strong prices slip more than 25 percent that capital is flowing since May. The lira was holding steady, if not gaining against leading currencies such as the Deutsche mark and the dollar.

back into Italy.

And the state of t Indeed, signals were strong that foreign capital was flowing back into Italy, attracted by the high yields of government bonds and the bargain prices of Italian equities. The strength of the stock market was being fueled by indications from industry of a nascent but strong business recovery.

The second secon From 1992 to 1994, the two governments before Mr. Berlusconi's had taken giant strides toward bringing public spending under a semblance of control. Scrapping a murderous system of wage indexing that pegged pay increases to the inflation rate, they hrought the growth in Italy's cost-of-living index down to less than 4 percent, only slightly above the European average.

Mr. Berlusconi's short-lived administration struggled to maintain the momentum, cutting \$30 billion from the budget deficit in a

So even as the government was tumbling, some major investment brokerage firms were mildly bullish, betting that the departure of Mr. Berlusconi might break a political impasse, perhaps by means of fresh elections after a brief interim government.

Yet this week, as the Italian Treasury set its bond schedule for the first quarter of 1995, nominal interest rates on beliwether government bonds were set a percentage point higher than this year's. Mr. Fazio reminded Italians that, given the size of the public debt, every 2.5 percent increase in interest rates raises by the equivalent of \$22 billion to \$25 billion the cost of servicing the public debt, now a staggering \$1.2 trillion.

Some analysts were concerned that the political crisis would undermine Rome's resolve in fighting inflation and reducing the budget deficit, widening the spread between yields on Italian and German government bonds, the European benchmark.

# Asian Broadcasters Straddle a Diverse Web of Rules

By Richard Covington Special to the Herald Tribune

GUANGZHOU, China - The half-naked male models wildly gyrating in a German fashion show make the cut on this locally produced Guangzhou city television station. Across town, on the more widely dispersed provincial station, covering all of the southern China province of Guangdong, they would not have a prayer.

The same goes for "Ultraman," the animated Japanese series judged too violent by the provincial station, but allowed to air to the 300,000 cable viewers of the local Guangzhou affiliate.

Far from being monolithic, Chinese television

forced regulation and unpredictable latitudes of program content and standards of freedom that vary from province to province and city to city.

In the official line on Chinese television, "the audience is the market and the government is the master," according to Xu Xiongxiong, general manager of China Central Television's program agency. The reality is somewhat more flexible. As the broadcaster elaborated, "the government

intent is not to ban foreign programming, but to have it under control." Throughout Asia, as the region braces for a rising tide of new channels, satellites and foreign programming, Western and Asian television pro-

ducers are engaged in delicate balancing acts, attempting to tap into the hurgeoning Asian audience without offending local morals and

restrictive governments. Three years after STAR-TV brought the satellite age to Asia, governments here are grappling with the invasion, trying to minimize the impact," said James Y.C. So, Hong Kong's secretary of recreation and culture. At stake is an exploding market, where average annual economic growth is around 10 percent and Englishlanguage programming alone is predicted to number channels doubling each year, the appe-jump five times within the next four years, acjump five times within the next four years, according to David Murrell, Asia media analyst with KPMG Peat Marwick.

million households, accounting for around \$300 million of the \$3 billion total of overseas revenue

to U.S. television producers. Most governments in the region limit televi-sion imports to between 15 and 30 percent of program schedules - with the standout exception of Taiwan, where foreign programs account for 80 percent of air time, according to Susan Schoenfeld, media analyst for Hong Kong-based Advisors for International Media. But with the

See MEDIA, Page 7

# Hoechst's Copley Has a Drug Problem

By Susan Diesenhouse

New York Times Service
CANTON, Massachusetts — By the spring of 1993, things were not looking good to Mark Riley.

As a quality assurance inspector at Coplcy Pharmaceutical Inc. —a relatively young company that would soon be taken over by the German chemicals giant Hoechst AG—he did not like the way his company's plant in Canton was making Alhuterol, an asthma drug that was its hottest product.

Only 15 miles (24 kilometers) away, at the company's plant in South Boston, Mark's twin brother, Michael, was voicing similar concerns about how the company was making Brompberil, an anti-histamine that was its fifth-biggest seller.

The brothers have since quit the company and taken their concerns about Copley's manufacturing practices to federal authorities.

Hoechst AG, agreed in October 1993 to pay \$546 million, or \$55 a share, for a 51

Company executives say the Rileys' accounts of their combined tenure of eight years at Copley are just not true. But the company will be dealing with their allegations for years to come, and

their accusations have been echoed by other former employees and by U.S. Food and Drug Administration records. A year ago, Copley's reputation was pristine. The company had not been tarnished by the bribery scandals that engulfed much of the generic-drug industry a few years earlier, and it had Wall Street's admiration for its apparent ability to show above-average profits and keep coming out with new products while adhering to the highest govern-ment standards.

Hoechst Celanese, a subsidiary of

Time Warner Said to Plan Expansion in Cable

pay \$546 million, or \$55 a share, for a 51 percent stake in the company.

But this year, Copley had to recall all 3.7 million bottles of Albuterol it had ever made because of possible bacterial contamination, and all 55 million tablets of Brompheril made since September

1992 because of lapses in quality control. Lawsuits are piling up from about 100 consumers who say they were injured by Alhuterol, or from their survivors. With the stock languishing — it closed Friday at \$14,375, down 74 percent from the price Hoechst paid and only 13 percent above its initial offering price in 1992 shareholders have also sued, accusing the company of misleading them about its

The company is under investigation See COPLEY, Page 9

munications Inc.

# China Draws Up Plan to Battle Inflation in '95

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches BEIJING - China has mapped out a seven-point program for 1995 to tackle the country's high inflation rate, the China News Service reportation raise prices paid to farmers to ed over the weekend.

Consumer prices across China rose at an annual rate of 27.5 percent in the first 11 months of 1994, fueled by rising food prices and double-digit economie growth.

Fighting inflation has become China's top priority amid concerns in Beijing that rising prices might cause social unrest that could jeopardize the Communist Party's control of the country.

To counter this, China plans to set a reasonable growth rate for 1995, taking into account in-flation, China News Service said Saturday, Last week, the State Planning Commission indicated the growth target would be 9 percent to 10 percent, with infla-

tion at 10 percent, China's gross domestic product is set to rise more than 11 percent this year, substantially overshooting the 9 percent tar-get set in March by Prime Min-

ister Li Peng. In southern China's booming Guangdong Province, growth will hit 18 percent for 1994, Xinhua news agency said Saturday. Another key measure in 1995 will be to direct investment to agriculture, the report said. This offset rising producer prices.

The other points of the program are to strictly control investment in fixed assets; improve food distribution; link industrial production to supply and demand; carefully control prices for commodities such as grain, edible oil, cotton, vegetables and chemical fertilizers, and restrain growth in consumption, China News Service said.

Investment in fixed assets by state enterprises grew 25.54 percent year-on-year in November. bringing the overall expansion rate this year to 38 percent.

The Chinese government has tightened credit to curh speculative investment hut continues to channel funds to ailing state enterprises, 44 percent of which lost money in the first nine months of this year,

Another report Saturday said 38 companies in the central Chinese industrial city of Wuhan, including 25 in the state sector, bad declared bankruptcy by the end of November.

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

#### NEW YORK - Time ment on the report, which apown about 5.6 percent of Time markets. Time Warner is the Warner Inc. is reported to be peared Friday in Nihon Keizai asking Itochu Corp. and To- Shimbun, ltochu and Toshiba are already investors in Time Warner Entertainment, the Time

By Geraldine Fabrikant New York Times Service

shiba Corp. to put up as much as \$300 million apiece to belp it buy more cable television sys-

the holidays and executives fice and Warner Brothers. The such as Time Warner have been could not be reached to com- two Japanese companies each trying to concentrate in specific

Warner division that owns its Time Warner was closed for cable systems, Home Box Of-

Warner Entertainment, while second-largest U.S. cable sys-U S West Inc. owns about 25.51 There was no indication Fri-

day as to whether the two Japa- refused to comment on the Japnese companies were interested. anese newspaper's report, al-Time Warner, bowever, has though that company has also

indicated that it was interested indicated that it would like to in expanding its cable holdings, increase its cable interests. and there has been speculation There have been recent re-that it would like to acquire ports that Time Warner might

industry has been consolidat- to bolster the parent company's ing. Moreover, large operators sagging stock price.

There have been recent re-Cablevision Corp. seek to restructure Time Warner Entertainment, in part seek to restructure Time

tem operator, after Tele-Com-

A spokesman for US West

# Sharpshooting Novice Hits the Profit Target

By Thomas Crampton The old gamekeeper relied Malcolm Borthwick likes Americans because they

can't shoot straight. "They are good stock pre-servers, so you know, 'He'll fly another day,'" Mr. Borthwick said, tracing the imagi-



The Englishman also likes Americans because they like

"We offer the old ambience. This is sort of an Edwardian time warp run to modern standards," be said.
Of course, there is the money. "It is well known that in America there is a higher

level of disposable income than in Europe," he said. Americans have not always come to shoot birds at Raeshaw House. In fact, almost nobody lived in the nine-bedroom shooting lodge for 30 years; until Mr. Borthwick restored it in 1976 to turn the estate into a profit-making shoot.

A shoot that makes money is a rare bird. Most are run by people of means, purely for oleasure. Also rare: Mr. Borthwick is interested in selling the family estate and

When, at age 37, Mr. Bor-thwick inherited the derelict lodge on 12,600 acres (5,116 hectares) of bleak Scottish moorlands -along with a £1 million (\$1.5 million) debt he was advised to sell quickly. My father came to visit

me in the United States. He said to me, This way of life is gone. No one will ever be able to afford this again. Shooting is a thing of the past." Mr. Borthwick said. Instead, Mr. Borthwick dropped his career in the London Business School on a Sloan fellowship and tried to learn how to raise and

shoot grouse and pheasant. This was no easy task; Mr. Borthwick's only country experiences were from childhood. But he persuaded the old head gamekeeper to postpone retirement and teach him the trade.

The biggest difficulty is raising grouse. Unlike pheasant, they must be bred where they are to be hunted and cannot be brought in from on intuition and experience many grouse could be shot before damaging the breeding stock.

Mr. Borthwick set up a table he called the "Raeshaw Ready Reckoner" that allowed him to make such calculations on the basis of historical data and a count of grouse eggs in a given area.

the subtleties of burning heather (to make room for new growth) and controlling vermin (killing rabbits), the first paying clients arrived. At the beginning, the "guns," as they are known, came from England, but Mr. Borthwick inted Americans.

"I knew from living over in New York that people were keen on duck hunting." Mr. Borthwick said. "To be able to say: Would you like There are no limits, and this is the doyen of wing shooting,' it wasn't difficult to find people who said 'Wow,

I'd like to do that." Mr. Borthwick depends exclusively on word of mouth to sell his grouse-hunting sojourns, which go for \$3,000 to \$9,000 a week. He refuses to use an agent and says he does not even have a brochure.

He simply asks those who have enjoyed the hunt to organize a reunion among themselves back in the United States. Each spring, Mr. gatherings, shows photographs of the estate and then lets his former clients do the promotion work for him. But now that he has trans

formed a dubious inheritance into a solvent company with its debts repaid, Mr. Borthwick wants to sell the place, not pass it on to his children — an unusual plan in a country where people often hang onto family es-

an estate is a terrible thing to take on unless you have enormous net worth to stand the downside risk," he said. Certainly my children don't have that net worth, and I knew they never would.

emotional thing. It is not a result, people don't look at it with the same disciplines that I look at it, because my stratwas different. I decided egy was different. I decided that I would turn the estate around and sell it, and in that way make my money. Articles in this series ap-

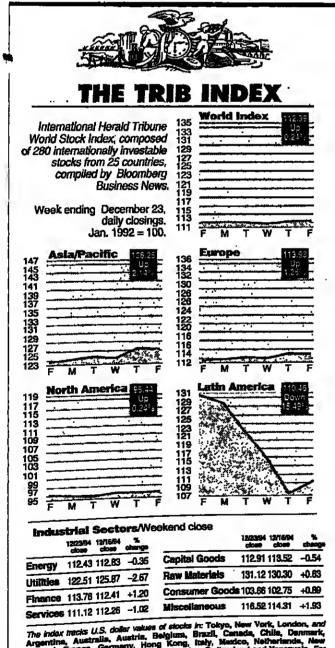
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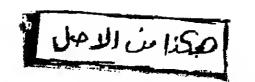
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# The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, Dec. 26 - Dec. 30

A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the interna-tional Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Busi-ness News.

Asia-Pacific

Bec. 28 Takyo Vehicle exports from Japan in November released by Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association.

pan Automobile Manufacturers Association,
Tahsan Constitution Day holiday,

Bec. 27 Tokyo Tokyo area consumer price index for December and national index for Nevember released by
Management and Coordination agency.
Tokyo Management and Goordination
Agency releases November unemployment rase and Lisbor Ministry releases.
November job-to-applicant ratio.
Tokyo Construction Ministry releases.
November housing starts and construction orders.

November released by Ministry of Internaretrient resease by kinistry of Interna-tional Trade and Industry.

• Bes. 29 Hong Kong Government to lesue November merchandise trade fig-

lease reovermoer merchandise trade lig-ures.
Kusia Lumpur Government-controlled electric utility Tenaga Nasional Bhd. to hold annual stockholders' meeting.

• Bee. 30 Tokyo Stock market to close at midday to begin New Year holi-day. It will reopen Jan. 5 for a morning ensaion. session, Subang, Melnyala Kai Peng Bhd. to hold stockholders' meeting.

Europe

Continued from Page 7

by the U.S. attorney in Boston,

who launched a grand-jury in-

vestigation in September, Lim-

ited at first to production of

Brompheril, the investigation

was then expanded to Albuterol

and now encompasses all the

Former employees, including

the Rileys, have contended the

company regularly falsified

production records, failed to as-

sign supervisors to monitor key

products and conducted safety

tests on products haphazardly.

who founded the company 21

years ago and remains chairman

of the company, refused to com-

ment. Kenneth N. Larsen, a

board member serving as inter-

im president, said Copley was

"dedicated to producing quality

products in which all can have

confidence" and said the compa-

ny's lone "contamination prob-

Continued from Page 7

limited largely by the program

quate by Western standards,

falling as low as \$750 for a balf-

Hong Kong broadcaster whose

sion is scheduled to launch this

spring in Mandarin, plans to

sidestep government censors

with a mix of wholesome family

entertainment. "No sex; no vio-lence, no news" is the motto of Mr. Chua's CETV.

in this rapidly shifting environ-ment can be a confusing busi-

ness. Dick Lee, general manager of Malaysia's HVD Film

Production, complained of cen-

sors snipping a segment of an actor perched atop a tall building. They construed the scene

to mean he might jump," ex-plained Mr. Lee, "and suicide

conflicts with the image they want to present of Malaysia."

The use of a handgun in film-

ing requires police permission

and a policeman must be pre-

sent on the set to simulate fir-

Keeping up with the censors

Robert Chua, an ambitious

hour variety show in China, for expected," said William Hooks,

prices that are woefully inade-

lem" had been remedied.

Jane Hirsh, the pharmacist

company's products.

of living, Forecast Up 0.1 percent in month and 2.6 percent in year Frankfurt November import prices. Forecast Up 0.2 percent in month and 1.8 percent in year.

percent in year.

Madrid Government aleted to announce the winners of elicerise to provide private mobile telephone service in Spain.

Rease November M-2, measured on eamounth average. Forecast: Up 3.3 percent in three months.

a Bea. 27 Cogenhagen Third-quarter industriel production.

Roses President Occar Luige Scattero consultes consultations to find successor to Prime Menister Stimo Berlusconi. Meets with presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.

survey.

Madrid Pilots of the troubled state air-

day strike which management warns Bee. 29 Brussels December con-sumer price index Forecast: Up 0.2 percent in month and 2 percent in year.

management in the last year.

for the long term," said Andrea

Stine, a Hoechst Celanese

spokeswoman. "We are support-

ive of Copley and the action it has taken."

tion reports - obtained

through the Freedom of Infor-

mation Act - show the compa-

ny has had operational prob-

lems for years, is withholding

criticism until its investigation

"Recalls happen," said Thom-

as J. McGinnis, the agency's as-

sociate director of pharmacy af-

fairs, and "every pharmaceutical

But Mark Riley said poorly

trained workers made mistakes

ing. HBO Asia, the pay-TV film

channel, is forced to cut scenes

considered too violent or sexu-

al, although the restrictions

have not been as onerous as we

HBO Asia's managing director.
"It would be idiotic not to

respect the local cultures," he

continued. Instead of trying to

refrite charges of cultural impe-

rialism, Mr. Hooks advised

Western producers to stress the

new jobs and technological

transfers the expansion of local

After initially being east as a leading cultural imperialist, Hong Kong-based STAR-TV is

In China, where the network dropped BBC World Service

Television to placate govern-ment objections and a largely

unenforced ban on satellite

dishes remains officially in ef-

fect, the service claims to reach

30 million homes via cable. In

Malaysia, where the ban on sat-

ellite dishes is rigorously en-forced, Prime Minister Ma-

hathir bin Mohamad,

television industries creates.

staging a turnaround.

company has problems."

has been completed.

The FDA, whose own inspec-

"Hoechst has invested in Copley

 Dec. 30 Burito Germany's Trauhand holds news contenence on final pri-vatization activity in 1984. Lender Changellor of the Exchaquer Kenneth Clarks starts a tour of Vistnam. Malayais and "halland to gain business for the British financial services industry.

e zoe. zo Eansings expected: Ault Inc. • Dec. 27 Washington Existing home

New York The Conference Board re-leases its index of consumer confidence nor becamber. New York: Johnson Redbook research service releases its weekly survey of same-store sales at more than 20 depart-

semi-soore sales at more than 20 department, discount and chain stores in the United States.
Mexica City. The contrait bank announces the results of its weekly auction of securities. Outlook: Rates to rice from \$.25 percent.

S.25 percent.
Earnings expected Transonic Cos.

• Bec. 25 Washington The weekly sale of government treasury bits will be held rather than on Tuesday due to holf-

neid ramer than on Tuesday due to hon-days.

Artington, Virginia The American Gas Association release its weetly U.S. natu-ral gas Inventory report.

Washington The Morigage Sankers As-sociation of America neleose its weekly report on mortgage applications.

Washington American Petroleum Insti-Weehington American Petrovum translute issues its weekly report on U.S. petro-leum stocks, production, imports and re-Washington Internal Revonue Service Commissioner Margaret Milner Richard-

Publicly, Hoechst is also supervisors were absent, and last 40,000-bottle hatch of Al-

signed paperwork was com-mon," Mr. Riley said.

According to a shareholder

lawsuit, a supervisor halted Al-

buterol production in March

1993 and advised closing one of

its two production lines because

The supervisor, John Connell,

was soon reassigned to another

part of the company where he

had no responsibility for Albu-

terol, and production resumed in

June, according to depositions

Five months later, just as the

Hoechst deal was coming to a close in November 1993, the

company's outside laboratory

indicated it had found signs of

country in return for substan-

Hong Kong's largest network.

casting an English-language

has encountered surprisingly

time, local distributors will

previously one of STAR's most there is a major event going on and hard rock videos and the vocal critics, is close to permitin the country," said Peter Veirreverent cartoon characters

ting the service to air in the sey, the network's vice presi- Beavis and Butthead.

"Cultural imperialism is sim-

loss of at least \$12 million this masked. Viewers tuning in to

year, according to Rupert Mur- the CNN fashion report see a

alism is greatly exaggerated," "Overall in the region, regu-said S. K. Fung, chief executive latory barriers are being low-of TVB International Ltd., ered," added Mr. Vesey, "be-

Hong Kong's largest network. cause governments recognize "It's a smokescreen to protect the value more televised infor-

local television production mation and choice has on pro-

channel side-by-side with a network that reaches a quarter Chinese channel for 27 years of a billion homes worldwide, it

and we didn't become English- is not censorship as much as

CNN International, which down the service in the region.

claims to reach 9.6 million "Pop music here is more sac-

households in 22 countries charine and sanitized," said

across the Asia-Pacific region, MTV Chairman Tom Freston.

briefly interrupt the service if the line at sexually explicit rap

little censorship. "From time to don't have a lot of angst."

business. We've been broad- moting their economies."

"The issue of cultural imperi- portion left intact.

doch, head of the network's canned tape of ducks flying

tial control of the telecasts.

parent News Corp.

men.

REPUBLIC OF LEBANON MINISTRY OF MUNICIPALE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION

Solid Waste Management Sector

Pre-Qualification of contractors for the supply of 180 Compactor Trucks

Further to the previous announcement relating to the above mentioned project, the Council for Development and Reconstruction

Further to the previous authorities to the prequalification documents relevant to the above mentioned project, at CDR offices, (CDR), announces that the submission date of the prequalification documents relevant to the above mentioned project, at CDR offices, has been postponed from Thursday, December 22, 1994 to Wednesday, January 18, 1995 before 12:00 Hrs noon, Beirut local time.

REPUBLIC OF LEBANON

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPALE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION

Solid Waste Management Sector

Pre-Qualification of contractors for the supply of 5200 Garbage Containers

Further to the previous announcement relating to the above mentioned project, the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR), announces that the submission date of the prequalification documents relevant to the above mentioned project, at CDR offices, has been postponed from Thursday, December 22, 1994 to Wednesday, January 18, 1995 before 12:00 Hrs noon, Beirut local time.

taken in the lawsuit.

that went unremedied because bacterial contamination in the training.

MEDIA: Television Broadcasters Tread Carefully in Asian Markets

In April, Mark Riley resigned.

of possible contamination.

standing by its investment. At supervisors signed records buterol it had tested. least two Hoechst employees falsely indicating they had have joined Copley's senior monitored production. "Precisis, Copley has s

aon, holds news conference as tederal income tax filing season begins. Mexico City. The central bank announces the results of its weekly auction of government securities. Outsook: Shortam Treasury bills up from 15 percent lest

west.

Bea. 29 Washington November leading economic Indicators.

Washington November import and export price indexes.

Washington The Labor Department reports initial weekly satis unemployment coripersation insurance claims and sate unemployment recipients.

Washington The Treesury Department reports weekly money supply/bank reserve data.

reports weekly money supply/bank re-serve data.
Washington The Morrigage Bankers As-sociation of America releases its weekly report on morrigage applications.
Businos Aires Sharaholders of Alparga-tes Saic, on Argentine footwear and tex-tile company, your on accord to set Greenwood talks of the United States, a 20 percent stake in its serille division for \$18 million.
Earninga assected Equipmo Corp.

378 mission.

Earnings expected Equirac Corp.

e Bee. 30 Chicago The Chicago Na-tional Association of Purchasing Manage-ment releases its indexes for December.

Washington November new home

Ann Artior, Michigan The University of Michigan releases in fine consumer aen-timent index for December. Westlington fritx Corp. and Zenith Lab-Weetingles: frex Corp. and Zenith Lac-oratories Inc. hold shareholders' meeting to vote on lyss's \$600 million purchase of

gion The Federal Reserve Board releases its weekly report of assets and liabilities of U.S. commercial banks.

downplay the gravity of the sit-

For instance, on March 31,

terol-related death, Copley said

it had been unable to confirm a

single case where Albuterof had

caused serious illness in a user.

over a swamp with the audio

For MTV, the music video

audience taste that is toning

"The kids are optimistic. They

But the censors have drawn

pation.

# U.S./SHORT COVER Japan Government

# German Firms Reschedule Iran Debt

TEHRAN (Bloomberg) — Iran has reached agreement with German companies to reschedule 1 billion Deutsche marks (\$635 million) in overdue debts, the national news agency IRNA report-

The agency quoted a central bank official saying that 750 of the 900 German companies that are owed by Tehran had agreed to the refinancing arrangement. IRNA said the debts were not covered by official German export-credit-guarantee agencies.

Iran has rescheduled about \$11 billion overdue debts since February despite opposition from the United States. Germany

#### and Japan were the first to agree to defer debts to Tehran. Korean Focuses Effort on WTO Job

SEOUL (Reuters) - Kim Chul-su, South Korea's former trade minister, will concentrate on his bid to become first head of the new World Trade Organization after being dropped from the

cabinet last week, officials said on Sunday.

Asian countries have lined up behind Mr. Kim in the three-way race for the post, which is available from Jan. 1. Italy's former trade minister Renato Ruggiero is backed by the European Union and Washington, while Latin American countries strongly sup-port Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the former Mexican president.

### Profit at Saudi Basic Seen Up 42%

DUBAI (Reuters) - Saudi Basic Industries Corp., Saudi Arabia's industrial giant, will post a profit of 3 billion riyals (\$800 million) in 1994, up from 2.12 billion riyals in 1993, its chairman

Abdul-Aziz al-Zamel, who is also Electricity and Industry Minister, was quoted as saying at a directors' meeting in Riyadh that "achievements in production and marketing" accounted for

SABIC, in which the Saudi government holds a 70 percent stake, produces petrochemicals, plastics, fertilizers and steel.

### COPLEY: Allegations About Manufacturing Unhealthy for Bottom Line Farmers Ordered to Make Rebates

NEW YORK (NYT) - Farmers Insurance Group, a subsidiary of BAT Industries PLC, London, was ordered Friday by Califor-Throughout the subsequent nia regulators to rebate \$183 million to customers under a 1988 crisis, Copley has sought to insurance reform law.

The company said it planned to contest the order and noted that an earlier offer by the state, which it rejected, was for n much

#### nearly three months after a Copley distributor told Dr. Muppets' Record Flop Brings Suit Kenneth Zack of Copley's safety department about an Albu-

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) - Jim Henson Productions Inc. has sued a U.S. unit of Bertelsmann AG over its handling of a contract to establish a Jim Henson record label featuring the Muppets.

In the lawsuit Friday, the company formed by the late Jim what the company failed to characters, seeks at least \$3 million in damages from Bertelsvolunteer - a fact that also mann's BMG Music unit for the poor sales performance of a series emerged later from court papers of Muppet albums marketed under the contract.

was that its own specialist, Henson alleges that BMG broke promises it had made to give Dr. David R. Snydman of the Muppets albums worldwide distribution and ultimately "lied and New England Medical Center, manipulated in a scheme to avoid fulfilling its monetary commithad only tested four patients.

To the FDA, the company ments to Henson." Executives of Bertelsmann and of BMG Music could not be reached for comment,

#### blamed the contamination of Albuterol on an unidentified North Korean Nut Crop Floods South

"poorly trained" worker. It as-SEOUL (AFP) — Tons of North Korean walnuts are pouring into South Korea and being sold at one-tenth the price of the local signed him to one extra day of

crop, Yonhap news agency said Saturday.

The agency quoted customs officials at Inchon as saying the nuts were selling at 1 million won to 1.2 million won (\$1,250 to \$1,500) a ton, compared with 10 million won for home-grown walnuts.

#### For the Record dent. "But these incidents are rare."

Japan is planning 30 billion yen (\$300 million) for low-interest loans to enhance the country's fiber-optic network. (Bloomberg) Only on Pakistan's Shalimar ply bad business," said Gary TV Network is there consorship Davey, STAR chief executive. of the news service, where hug-TV Network is there censorship The Bank of Israel said Sunday it would not change interest rates. It last raised rates on Nov. 28 by 1.5 percentage points, "It makes no money." STAR ging and kissing and women's bringing its minimum rate for loans to banks to 16.3 percent. That nevertheless stands to post a exposed arms and legs are increase was the eighth this year.

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Herald Eribune

# **Opposes Tax Rise**

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches TOKYO - Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Sunday that a tax increase to compensate for revenue shortfalls

was unlikely. Mr. Takemura, speaking at a press conference after the cabinet approved the 1995-96 budget, said the government would pursue administrative and fiscal reform before it considers a tax increase.

tus of public corporations, as part of the administrative reform effort, will start during cabinet-level meetings scheduled on Monday and Tuesday, Mr Takemura said.

Discussions to review the sta-

Earlier, the cabinet passed a budget for fiscal 1995 that would shrink spending for the first time in nearly four decades.

The budget, which is expected to easily pass in Parliament, calls for the smallest increase in foreign aid since World War II and the smallest increase in defense spending in 35 years. The budget totals 70.99 trillion yen (\$705.67 billion) for

the year starting next April 1, down 2.9 percent from the initial budget for fiscal 1994.

This would be the first de-

cline from spending in a previ-ous year since a cut of 0.8 percent in 1955. A three-year recession has

cut into tax revenues, as has an income tax cut adopted in 1994 in hopes of speeding economic recovery by encouraging consumer spending.
(Knight-Ridder, AP, AFP)

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# SPORT

# Spurs Win Battle of The Centers

The Associated Press

A Texas-sized rivalry between two of the National Basketball Association's best defensive centers came down to blocked shots. For a change, it wasn't Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon doing the rejecting. He was the one whose shots were swatted away by San Antonio's David Robinson.

#### **NBA ROUNDUP**

ahead, Robinson blocked two shots by Olajuwon to seal San Antonio's 98-96 vic-

tory at home Friday night.
"We feel really had about this one."
Houston guard Kenny Smith said. "This hurts more than any other game this year."

Rohinson came up with his big blocks despite playing on two sprained ankles. His left ankle was hurting before the game and he injured his right late in the first quarter, leaving the game temporarily to get them taped.

"I told the guys that they were going to have to pick it up because I couldn't jump," said Rohinson, who still had 18 points, 10 rebounds and four blocked

Vernon Maxwell had a season-high 2?

points for the Rockets. Vinny Del Negro led the Spurs with 26 points.

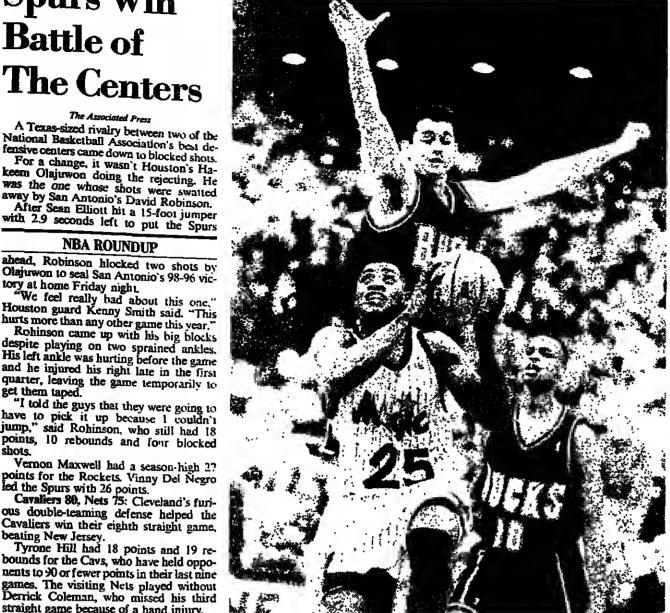
Cavaliers 80, Nets 75: Cleveland's furious double-teaming defense helped the Cavaliers win their eighth straight game, beating New Jersey.

Tyrone Hill had 18 points and 19 rebounds for the Cavs, who have held opponents to 30 or fewer points in their last nine games. The visiting Nets played without Derrick Coleman, who missed his third straight game because of a hand injury.

Magic 123, Bucks 91: Shaquille O'Neal's 32 points led Orlando to its 11th straight home victory this season. The Magic held Milwaukee to two field goals in the first seven minutes of the fourth quarter to break open a close game. Glenn Robinson led the Bucks with 20 points.

Hawks 97, Pistons 77: Atlanta's victory at Detroit gave Lenny Wilkens the 937th victory of his career, one shy of Red Auerbach's record for coaching victories. Wilkens can tie the NBA record with a victory Tuesday at Houston. Mookie Blaylock's 18 points led Atlanta, and Grant Long

Bulls 116, Pacers 92: Toni Kukoc came off the bench to score 27 points and help Chicago snap its three-game losing streak. Derrick McKey led the visiting Pacers with



Nick Anderson drove to the basket during Orlando's victory over Milwaukee.

DIV YII 100s High Low Clse Chie Stocks

17 points, 12 in the first quarter. Reggie

Miller had 16 points.

Suns 126, Nuggets 110: Kevin Johnson had 21 points and 11 assists in his best game since coming off the injured list as Phoenix beat Denver, Danny Manning scored 18 points for the Suns, who won their 13th straight at home by building a 21-point lead with 4 minutes, 18 seconds remaining. Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf scored

22 points for the Nuggets, hitting nine of 11 shots, and Rodney Rogers scored 20. Bullets 105, Chippers 102: Washington's Bullets 105, Clippers 102: Washington's points as Los Angeles won for the 12th time in 15 games. The visiting Kings shot the Bullets survived a late Clippers rally.

Washington's 103-93 lead with just 54 seconds left nearly disappeared as a pair of haskets by Charles Outlaw and a 3-pointer by Randy Woods cut the lead to 105-102, Mitchell Butler had 22 for the visiting Bullets, who were without the injured

Chris Webber. Lakers 100, Kings 89: Eddie Jones scored 14 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter and Vlade Divac blocked a careerhigh eight shots to power Los Angeles past Sacramento. Cedric Ceballos added 21

# Knicks And Bulls Add Up to Boring

New York Times Service CHICAGO — The Knicks-Bulls rivalry. marinated in several seasons of intense playoff matchups, used to conjure up images of everything that was good and bad about the National Basketball Associa-

A statuesque Patrick Ewing fall-away from the baseline. Scottie Pippen dunking, followed by Scottie Pippen pouting. Elbows — and sometimes fists — flying. But those images have been summarily

By hideous 63-point performances (Chicago). By four-game losing streaks (New York). And, yes, by two of the game's coaching elite (Pat Riley and Phil Jackson) no longer folding their arms across their immaculately tailored suits in satisfaction but instead wiping sweat from their fur-rowed brows and looking for answers to questions that have none.

The Knicks and Bulls don't care about their front teeth. All they wanted for Christmas was their old reputations re-

turned to them. They were to meet Sunday at the United Center for the first time since their semifinal playoff series last season, which was won by the Knicks in a breakthrough year for Pat Riley & Co. after years of chasing Michael Jordan around the rim.

How the mighty have fallen. New York and Chicago are the fifthand sixth-best teams in the Eastern Conference. The Knicks are six and a half games out of first place in the Atlantie Division and the Bulls are four and a half

out of first in the Central Division. They resemble teams in need of identities - the Bulls still searching for Life Without Michael and the Knicks relying on old legs and grit against the emerging powers in Orlando and Indiana.

And chemistry? Don't ask. It will only spoil your holiday season.

Charles Oakley, much of the heart and muscle of the Knicks interior defense, is playing on a toe that hurts worse than he ever imagined. Special shoes, therapy and rest have done nothing to eliminate the possibility of surgery in the near future.

John Starks is in a slump of Democratic Party magnitude, shooting wildly and missing from 3-point range while he tries to regain the form that helped carry the Knicks into the finals last season.

New York has lost its past four games, including three straight at Madison Square Garden. New Jersey and Cleveland both executed hrilliantly down the stretch to deal the Knicks their last two losses as New York misfired in the closing seconds.

Whether they can return to championship form before the season is halfway through remains to be seen. As for the Bulls, who showed some resil-

champion team in Chicago.

Toni Kukoc has shown signs of brilliance — he scored 17 of his 27 points in the second quarter against the Pacers to help snap a three-game losing streak --- but without the inside presence of Horace Grant and with Pippen's game fading in and out of consciousness, there is no im-mediate hope for a big turnaround in sight.

Ron Harper is still trying to mold his free-lance appeal into a structured system.

iency in their 116-92 victory over the Pacers on Friday night, it is anyone's guess how long it will take them to rehuild a champion team in Chicago.

Toni Kukoc has shown signs of brilliance — he scored 17 of his 27 points in

Will Perdue, two of the Bulls starters. So as they meet for the second time in three years on Christmas Day, this is what one of the great rivalries in recent league history may come down to: Jud Buechler

posting up Herb Williams. Pass the egg nog. While you are at it, please change the channel.

# Maryland Wins 1,000th Game In 138-72 Rout of Morgan State

Although they had no designs on setting records, the 11th-ranked Maryland Terrapins couldn't help themselves

"We were scoring inside and outside."
Joe Smith said after getting 25 of his team's

#### COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

school-record 138 points. "And they were fouling us an awful lot."

Indeed. Morgan State, without a victory this year, sent Maryland to the free-throw line for 67 attempts on Friday in College Park, Maryland. That the Terps made hut 41 was about the only negative coach Gary Williams could find in the 138-72 rout of

Morgan State did not take its first free throw until 12:03 was left in the game, and finished with only 13 attempts.

But Williams was more interested in the 26 his team missed.

"I'm always concerned about that," he said. "I would like to see us shoot around 73 percent. We have the type of team that's going to get fouled, so we'd better make them if we do get fouled."

The victory was the 1,000th for Maryland in 72 seasons. The Terps have lost

"I don't think any of us thought about scoring all those points or winning the 1,000th game," said guard Duane Simpkins, who matched a career high with 11 assists.
"We just wanted to have a good showing."

Simpkins also was glad Morgan State was the opposition, considering Maryland was coming off a 10-day layoff.

You don't want to come out against North Carolina," he said. Maryland had eight players score in double figures, including Johnny Rhodes (19), Sarunas Jasikevicius (18) and Exree

No. 3 Arkansas 82, Tulsa 63: Corliss Williamson scored seven of his 21 points and Davor Rimac made two straight 3pointers as the Razorbacks, playing at home, opened the second half with an 18-0

Tulsa made just three turnovers in the first half while building a 36-32 lead, but committed seven fouls in the first 4:14 of the second half. The Razorbacks hit six of nine shots during the run.

No. 10 Connecticut 85, Fairfield 68: In Hartford Connecticut, Ray Allen had 21 points and Doron Sheffer 16, and both keyed runs that helped Connectient. UConn never trailed, breaking from a 7-7 tie on five straight points by Sheffer early in the game at Hartford.

The Stags kept it elose, trailing 19-16 before Allen had five points during a 9-0 run to a 28-16 lead. The Huskies led 43-30 at halftime.

No. 16 Minnesota 115, San Jose St. 68: Coming off its worst offensive showing of the season, Minnesota put seven players in double figures — including Townsend Orr with 17 points - and the Golden Gophers snapped, playing at home, their three-game losing streak. Minnesota was thrashed, 71-50, on Wednesday by Texas

Southern. The Golden Gophers shot 52 percent in reaching their highest point total in five years. The loss gave San Jose its worst start since 1958-59.

No. 20 Wisconsin 75, Loyola Mary-mount 60: In Madison, Wisconsin, Michael Finley had 17 points to move into second on the school's career scoring list, and the Badgers spotted the visiting Lions a 7-0 lead before taking control.

The Badgers also got 16 points and 15 repounds from Rashard Griffith before he Touled out with just under four minutes

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# **SPORTS**

# One Man Turns the Ponies to Profit

Washington Post Service
HONG KONG — Because of all the uncertainties involved in horse races dishonesty, racing luck, the human element — handicapping seems a very inexact science. But when Mr. B. set out to study the races in Hong Kong, he attempted to dn so with a purely mathematical approach. His success has made him a wealthy man.

Unlike most students of the game, Mr. B. never sought to devise a system for picking winners. Instead, his goal was to rate each horse's probability of winning. He wanted to know that a horse has say, a 12 percent chance of winning - just as he had been able to calculate, as a blackjack gambler, that under certain conditions the player had a 51 percent chance

He found his inspiration in an abscure book. Steven Brecher's "Beating the Races With a Computer." Brecher took every important handicapping factor — speed, class, weight, jockey — and de-vised ways to give each horse a numerical rating in each category. Then a computer would analyze past results and deter-mine the optimal way to weight those factors. This is hardly navel: Plenty of mathematically inclined handicappers have done the same, and they haven't won millions. The reason, Mr. B. recognized, is that most mathematical ratings are too simplistic to be of much use.

Take for example, the distance factor. How do you rate a horse's suitability at today's distance? Brecher's book proposed giving a horse a value of 1 if he had finished within six lengths of the winner in a race within one-sixteenth of a mile of today's distance; otherwise, he'd get a 0. Mr. B. wondered, "Can every subtlety in this factor be expressed by eather 1 or 0?" He knew the answer was nn.

Using regression analysis, he looked at all the nther handicapping factors except distance tn predict a horse's finishing position in a race. Then he looked at the actual finishing position and the difference, or residual, was what he took to be the effect of the distance factor.

At first he started looking for a linear relationship between performance and distance — what would amount to a neat straight line m a graph. But when he computer would give a horse a rating of ever again will achieve what he has done.

possibility of a local minimum. This means that admissible curves are those over any subsets of regions A1, A2, A3."

Nn, I don't understand it either. But this is the way Mr. B. has approached

If you know the probabilities and have access to the calculating power, there's no room left for debate.'

Mr. B., successful gambler.

each of the factors in his computer model - and there are 120 of them.

After weighing all the factors, the computer assigns each horse a rating and then translates it into his percentage chance of winning today's race, I scoffed at the notion that a computer could be so precise and know that a horse has exactly ing that, indeed, the horses with a 2 percent rating win roughly 2 percent of the time. The 10 percent horses win roughly 10 percent of the time.

After his handicapping software has finally generated the probabilities on a race, Mr. B.'s betting software takes over. The Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club disseminates its odds electronically, and those odds can be fed directly into the computer, which compares them with the probabilities and looks for bets that offer value.

If a horse has 1 chance in 10 of winning, and he is at 5 to 1 odds, the computer shuns him. If the same horse is 12 in 1, that's a 20 percent overlay. The the right man, and that nn horse better

realized that the true graph of this rela-tionship was more likely to be a curve, he course, win betting is the easy part. The bired a university mathematics professor computer also calculates the probability to study the factor further. He recently of every quinella and trifecta combinagot a fax from the professor, who said, in tion and compares it to the expected part, "We must assume that the distance payoff, looking for overlays in these preference curve is quadratic with no pools too. The computer dictates a bet on any combination whose potential payoff exceeds its probability. The greater the overlay, the greater the size of the

> The computer calculates the optimal size of each bet, which sounds like a darmting task, but Mr. B. gestured toward a book called "The Theory of Gambling and Statistical Logic," by Richard A. Epstein, and said, "Betting strategy is a solved problem. If you know the probabilities and have access to the calculating power, there's no room left for debate. Only when people are dealing with un-certain probabilities do they have to re-sort to rules of thumb."

Since he began his operation nearly a decade ago, Mr. B. has experienced only one losing year — a random fluctuation of luck, he says. He has won so much money and amassed such a mammoth stake that he now is constrained from betting as much as he would like. Even in the huge Hong Kong betting pools he could knock the odds askew.

Yet he looks with a sense of wonderment on his own success, knowing that it

was not forcordained. "I'm staggered," he said. "I didn't a 2 percent chance of winning a race. But know this was going to happen. There Mr. B. produced a set of statistics show could have been any of a number of impediments. The racing could have been dishonest. Or the Jockey Club chuld have taken chuntermeasures against us."

Perhaps Hong Kong is the only place where his method could work. Although Mr. B. said "somebody ought to try to do this in America," he said the knew that Hong Kong was the perfect laboratory for his computer analysis. With only two tracks and 900 thoroughbreds, and nn horses shipping in nr out, the computer can master all of the relevant factors much more easily than it could in the United States, It is likely that Mr. B.'s success was an extraordinary juxtaposition of the right time, the right place and

# Rough Sailing for America's Cup Competition

By Barbara Lloyd New York Times Service

SAN DIEGO - If the were an amusement park, the dominant ride unquestionably would be humper cars.

Several collisions during practice races off San Diego in the past two weeks have left the 75-foot racing boats bashed and battered. But there have been no injuries and few of the sailors seem all that con-

"We're practice racing, and that in itself lets the aggression come out," said Hartwell Jor-"We're battling away, but it's all in good spirit." The first formal races among currents.

are scheduled to begin Jan. 12.
Indeed, Spirit of Unum, the training boat for the PACT 95 defense syndicate, was barely able to stay affoat after a collision last Tuesday with Ville de Paris, a practice boat for the Defi 95 French challenge. The crew was almost ready in break out its contingency supply of air bags — yes, boats have them, too — for popping into the whole like oversized life

It took "extremely good sea-manship" to keep the boat from sinking, said Kerry Geraghty, yard manager for PACT 95. In what is known in yacht racing parlance as a T-bone than its share of calamities collision, the bow of Ville de since arriving in San Diego Paris slammed broadside into the midship section of Spirit of Unum. The fnur-foot wide the syndicate described as "80 hole just above the waterline workers, 30 spouses, 31 chilon Spirit of Unum looked like dren, a dog and a cat," was the a cardbnard cutout of the easy part. Getting its boats French yacht's bnw.

While both sides suggested

noting that the team's new cup — a reinforced structure used America's Cup racecourse yacht, Young America, was be- for moving the craft - had

> The Ville de Paris was in- and ruined the mast. volved in two other collisions, both with Nippon '94, one of two new Japanese boats scheduled for the 1995 America's Cup trial races.

A Dec. 14 accident left the French boat with a bucketsized gash out of its stern, leaving a black scar there for the next practice round.

"For us, the beauty factor is

Paris and Nippon banged into each other again. The impact resulted from the stern of Ville de Paris swinging around into Nippon's bow. Bertrand Pace, the French tactician, and Thierry Peponnet, Defi's alternate skipper, were tossed into the water.

"When we saw the video of the collision that night, we all had a laugh," Barrielle said. "Before Thierry was knocked off the boat, he was about to raise a protest flag. When he surfaced in the water, he was waving the flag."

A sense of humor has carried the French team through more than its share of calamities three weeks ago.

Moving its entourage, which the syndicate described as "80 squared away was not.

The crew watched in harror that it was the other team's Dec. 7 as France 2-3, the first fault, no nne seems to be press- nf their twn new boats, was ing the issue. The cost of re-pairing the PACT 95 boat has mac at the San Diego comnnt yet been determined. But pound. It was being lifted into the syndicate said it planned tn the water by crane for a day of retire the boat that day any- practice racing against the old-

forced the keel up into the deck

The damage was not as extensive as it could have been, with the crew's ability to do much of the repair work itself holding the repair bill below an initial estimate of \$1 million.

"It was like a bullet passing

"It hasn't set our program An inspection revealed that through the chest and not back at all," said Geraghty, the boat's internal lifting box touching any internal organs." specialist said. The boat is casing prepared for its Jan. 7 comtorn away, causing the yacht to pected to go back in the water
missioning ceremony in San fall onto its keel. The crash carly this week. The team's sec. early this week. The team's second new boat is scheduled begin sailing by Jan. 2.

It got so that at the end of

each day, the crew was looking at each other and saying, Well what do we do tonight?" " Bar what do we do tonight?" Bar-rielle said. "But I think they would rather get out there and get hit with an old boat than to sail cautiously."

### SIDELINES

### Yankees' Abbott Turns Free Agent 🥞

NEW YORK (AP) — Jim Abbott, an Olympic star who never lived up to expectations in New York despite pitching a no hitter in 1993, became a free agent when the Yankees didn't offer a 1995

The Yankees declined to give Abbott a qualifying offer of a least \$3 million, 10 percent more than his 1994 salary, the amount required to keep him a restricted free agent under the rules owner. imposed Friday.

Abbott came to the Yankees from California on Dec. 6, 1992 The previous two years he had ERA's nf 2.77 and 2.89, and went 18-11 in 1991. However, he was 11-14 with a 4.37 ERA's New York in 1993, despite pitching a no-hitter in one of his hit moments of Yankee glory on Sept. 4, and he was 9-8 with ERA in the strike-shortened 1994 season.

#### Maradona to Coach Another Club

BUENOS AIRES (AP) - Diego Maradona has signed on as

coach of Racing Club, his second coaching stint since a failed drag, test got him banned from the playing field.

Maradona signed a one-year contract reportedly worth, \$500,000. He lasted eight weeks in his first coaching job at Deportivo Mandiyu. He quit in early December after his teams. last in the standings, won just one match of 12.

Racing Chub last won the first division title in 1966, and the

following year it beat Scotland's Celtic to win the Intercontinental: Cup. The club has fired 50 coaches in the last 20 years.

#### For the Record

Saen Sor Pioenchit of Thailand retained his World Boxing Association flyweight title on Sunday when he knocked out Danny Nunez of the Dominican Republic in the 11th round of their 12 round fight. Prosecutors have decided against filing criminal charges against

a police officer who shot a man in the head with a plastic bullet during Stanley Cup rioting in June in Vancouver. (AP)

### SCOREBOARD

**NBA Standings** ,652 ,560 ,500 ,423 ,391 ,292 9 14 7 17 WESTERN CONFERENCE

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-Denver 32 (Pack Other Major College Scores

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AMERICAN CONFERENCE

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x-clinched division
y-clinched playoff spot Altente 10, Arizona 6 Indenopolis 10, Buffelo 9 N.Y. Glouis 13, Dullas 10 Green Boy 34, Tampa Boy New England 17 Cleveland 35, Scattle 9 Kansas City 19, L.A. Raiders 1 New Orleans 30, Denver 28 Houston 24 N.Y. Jets 10

ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL tadle Vs. Pakistan Sunday, in Diseka Pokiston innings: 126 (all out, 47 overs)

india inninus: 123-6 in (33 overs) Result: India wan by four wickets.

SOSET INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY 

BASEBALL,
American Langue
BALTIMORE—Agreed to terms with Horold Boines, desharated hitter, on 1-year contract. Folled to after 1995 contracts to Dwisht Smith untifielder Jilm Poole, pitcher, and Jeff Tockett, cotcher, making them free opens, BOSTON—Failed to offer 1995 contracts to Tony Fosses and Crist Mohbart. Althory.

making them tree operis.

CALIFORNIA—Agreed to terms with Ken
Potterson, pilicher, on a minor teopue contruct. Folled to after 1995 controcts to Mork
Leiter and Bob Patherson, pilichers, making them free openis.
CHICAGO—Folied to otter a 1995 contract

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Chod Kreuter, calcher; and Junior Felbs, outfielder, making them free osents.

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rice opent.
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COLORADO—Folied to offer a 1995 con-tract to Charite Hayes, third baseman, mak-FLORIDA—Folled to offer a 1995 controct to Rich Renteria, infielder, making him a free open). Adreed to terms with Stave Decker, cotcher, bu Tyear Controct, HOUSTON—Agreed to terms with Scott

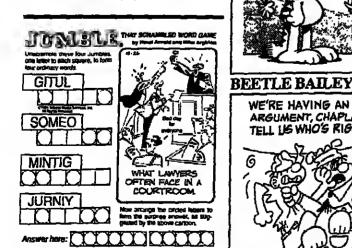
NEW YORK—Failed to offer 1995 contracts

to Pete Harnisch and Roger Mass cotcher, making them free agents.
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### **DENNIS THE MENACE**



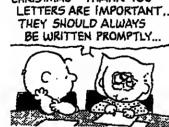
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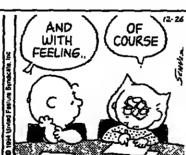


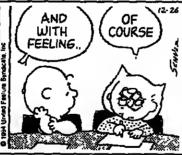
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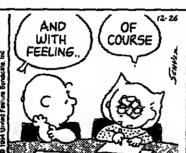
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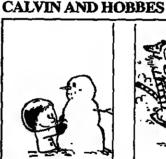
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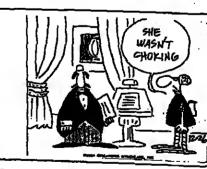




### WIZARD of ID







THE FAR SIDE



BLONDIE





Raiders quarterback Jeff Hostetler being sacked by Chiefs' defenders for a loss. TV, that's for sure," Packers Hostetler completed 14 of 27 passes for 167 yards before leaving the game with an injury. coach Mike Holmgren said.

# Central Division Sweeps NFC Wild-Card Berths

### Patriots and Chiefs Take Open AFC Playoff Spots

pleted a sweep of the National son. of the postseason qualifiers Dolphins victory gives them the were idle and another lost.

Kansas City and New Eng-land grabbed the unclaimed spots in the American Football Conference, and San Diego earned a first-round bye. Green Bay's vietory over Tampa Bay on Saturday not

#### **NFL ROUNDUP**

only secured the Packers a playoff berth, but also eliminated the New York Giants. The Giants' defeat of undermanned Dallas crushed the hopes of Ar-izona, which lost to Atlanta

New England finished off a sensational surge with its seventh straight victory at Chicago and grabbed an AFC playoff spot. The Bears (9-7) advanced along with Green Bay (9-7) in the NFC Central despite the loss. New York's victory al-

lowed Chicago in.
The other two Central teams Detroit and Minnesota —
 did not play Saturday. Detroit (9-6) was at Miami on Sunday night, and Minnesota (9-6) is home against San Francisco on Monday night.

If the Vikings win, they take on 33 carries, the NFC Central crown. If they

Packers 34 the NFC Central crown. If they lose and the Lions win, Detroit inishes first. If both lose, Green Raw parts the district file.

Packers 34, Buccaneers 19: In Tampa, the Packers got exfinishes first. If both lose, Green actly what they needed to make Bay gets the division title.

"It's a special day. We've had The Central Division com- our backs to the wall all sea-

Football Conference wild-card
If the Lions beat Miami, New
England wins the AFC East. A

Regardless, all four NFC Central qualifiers will play in the opening round of the play-offs next weekend. In the AFC, Cleveland, which beat Seattle, will play at home next weekend.

Kansas City's victory over the Los Angeles Raiders put the Chiefs into the playoffs and sent the Raiders home.

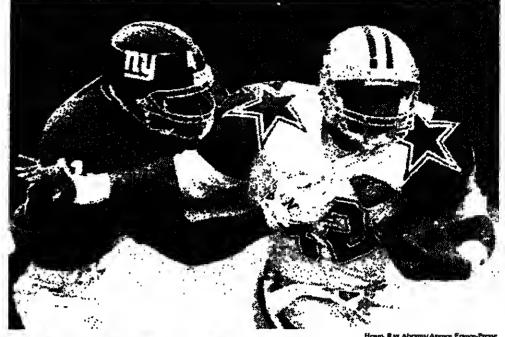
AFC Central ebampion

Pittsburgh, which lost to AFC West winner San Diego, already had secured a bye next week. So did San Francisco and Dailas in the NFC. Chiefs 19, Raiders 9: Mark

Collins returned an interception 78 yards for a touchdown on the final play of the first half in Los Angeles. The Chiefs beat the Raiders for the 10th time in

Joe Montana completed 15 of 24 passes for 214 yards and a touchdown before leaving after suffering a contusion in his left knee. Marcus Allen, a former Raider, became the ninth run-ning back to surpass the 10,000-yard mark, gaining 132 yards

the playoffs - a third straight victory. Sterling Sharpe went over the 1,000-yard receiving mark for the fifth time and



The Cowboys' Blair Thomas, right, was brought down by John Booty of the Giants.

caught three touchdown passes San Diego, Natrone Means' 20-as the Packers outgained the yard touchdown run on fourth-seventh straight. The Eagles Bucs, 433-214. Brett Favre threw for 291 yards and set Carney's 32-yard field goal with team records for completions (363) and touchdown passes

(33) in a season. Giants 15, Cowboys 10: The host Giants capped a seasonending six-game winning streak that followed a seven-game slide, which followed a 3-0 start. The two-time Super Bowl champion Cowboys, who have a first-round bye, did not look good or particularly interested. Falcons 10, Cardinals 6: The

visiting Cardinals already knew their playoff fate when Ronald Moore's dive from the Atlanta l-yard mark was stopped by linebacker Jessie Tuggle on the last play. Arizona failed to ful-fill Buddy Ryan's vow in his first season as coach that a playoff berth was certain.

Patriots 13, Bears 3; The Patriots were unstoppable as they earned their first playoff appearance in eight years. Drew Bledsoe passed for 277 yards and a touchdown and set an NFL record for attempts (655) in a season. Ben Coates set an NFL record for receptions by a tight end in a season with 96.

and-I tied the game and John 3 seconds left gave the Chargers next week off. San Diego had a 28-point fourth quarter even though quarterback Stan Humphries was knocked out

Browns 35, Seahawks 9: The Browns will be back in Cleve-land Stadium for a wild-card game next week. They finished off the stingiest defensive season in franchise history, limiting opponents to 204 points, easily a team record for a 16game season and the fewest for an AFC team since Pittsburgh yielded 195 in 1978.

249 yards and a touchdown.

Colts 10, Bills 9: ft was an ignominious end to the Bills' four-year hold on the AFC title, Buffalo had its first losing record since 1987, the year before est in the NFL this season, saw it began dominating the East. Typifying the Bills' season, Buf-row. falo had a chance to win on the final play of the game, but Steve Christie's 46-yard field goal try bounced off the right upright.

seventh straight. The Eagles blew a 17-point lead in the second half and let the Bengals kick two field goals in the final 3 seconds. Doug Pelfrey tied it with a 22-yarder. The Eagles' Brian O'Neal flubbed the squibbed kickoff to turn the with a bruised right thumb. ball over with :01 left. Pelfrey Humphries was 21-for-35 for hit a low, wobbly kick from 54 ball over with :01 left. Pelfrey yards as time expired.

Saints 30, Broncos 28: In Denver, Jim Everett threw for 343 yards and three touch-downs before being injured. Backup Wade Wilson made the lead stand up for New Orleans. Torrance Small eaught six passes for a career-high 200 yards, including touchdown catches of 36 and 75 yards.

Redskins 24, Rams 21: In what might be the Rams' last game at Anaheim - they are negotiating a move to St. Louis -a crowd of 25,705, the small-

Oilers 24, Jets 10: In Houston, the Jets dropped their fifth straight as the Oilers, ranked 28th in scoring, had their best ght end in a season with 96.

Bengals 33, Eagles 30: Phila-offensive output of the season Chargers 34, Steelers 31: In delphia's rapid collapse was with 382 yards.

# Replacements: The Dreadful Word Is Spoken

By Murray Chass New York Times Service
NEW YORK — The idea struck the general manager as absolutely ludi-

ants an Election

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prendence :

He was talking about replacement players, with whom major league owners are expected to try to stock their strikebound teams next spring, and he was asked how much clubs would have to pay them.

"I guess you'd have to offer them at least the minimum salary," said the general manager, who, like some others, spoke about the subject as long as he would not be named. "I really

haven't given it much thought." Well, he was asked, what would happen if three clubs sought the same replacement player? Would they get into a bidding war for him?

He paused for a second, then said, sounding a bit incredulous, "I never thought there'd be a bidding war on a

replacement player."
Say hello to the bizarre new world of baseball. It's not the proposed new United League, but good old Major League Baseball, the folks who are mired in the longest strike in sports history and whose lineups of lawyers are becoming better known than their lineups of players.

Companies won't be printing colectible cards any time soon of Chuck O'Connor and Rob Manfred and Gene Orza and Lauren Rich, but they and their colleagues have been and will continue to be on television more often than Frank Thomas, Ken Griffey Jr. and Barry Bonds.

The coming confrontations before the National Labor Relations Board,

ACROSS

### The Brave New World of Baseball

in U.S. District Court and in the cloakrooms of Congress will be the focal point of the baseball world in coming weeks and months, but other matters soon will begin demanding

Spring training, for example. And all the ramifications of that usually bucolic time of the calendar year and the sports schedule.

Only 53 days to pitchers' and catch ers' reporting!

Somehow that cry clangs with a more dissonant tone than in other winters. Exactly which pitchers and catchers will they be? Will they be strike-breaking pitchers and catchers? Minor league pitchers and catchers? Over-the-hill pitchers and catchers? Park rats and sandlot kings?

They won't be Latin American, Australian and Japanese pitchers and catchers because they won't be able to obtain visas to work in the United States as long as they would be replac-

ing striking pitchers and catchers. But not so fast. Before the bizarre new world of baseball reaches that stage of what would then be a sixmonth-old strike, its leaders must make some decisions.

"Obviously, the clubs have said we want to have spring training," said Bud Selig, the acting commissioner. There's no question we want to have spring training. Are there any specific plans, any master plan? No, there isn't What form will it take? There is no master plan at this point. Will there be a season? Same thing."

But surely the owners didn't implement a salary cap simply as a testimonial to milliners. If they don't open camps and prepare to play the season, or at least try to play it, their action last week would be meaningless.

And if they open camps, they will need players to populate them so what about those replacement players. some of whom could trigger bidding

"That's a subject that hasn't been discussed all along," Selig said. "That's not on the agenda to discuss at this point in time. I'm sure there are differing views, but we've bad no formal or informal discussions."

Those deliberations, though, are coming to an operations committee meeting soon.

"We have to look at the format of the next 60-plus days and begin to understand what we have to do, obviously in uncharted waters," Selig said.

"What we need is a 60- to 90-day, schedule with all the ramifications very well thought out. That's something I'm sure we'll begin to look at next week and clearly after the first of year. We'll have something definitive early to mid-January."

While the owners study the immediate future on the field, representatives of striking players will scrutinize the new economic system — the salary cap — and other implemented elements of the new structure to determine if players should even sign con-

Union officials bave advised players and agents to place a unilateral moratorium on signings until they can study all of the ramifications of the

If players do begin signing and the labor board or a court ultimately docides the salary cap was imposed im-properly, they could reap a windfall of monetary damages as a remedy to the

Meanwhile, when they open spring camps, just about the time the NLRB could be issuing a complaint against the clubs based on the unfair labor practice charge the union will file Tuesday, owners will look for massive

defections from striking players. But what they will probably need is massive collection of replacement players. The general managers hope

"No general managers like the idea," one general manager said. "My-self included."

Another general manager speculated that when the time comes to seek replacements, clubs will look at old free-agent lists, the list of six-year minor league free agents and the telephone list of players who retired a year or two ago, voluntarily or other-

"There might be some veteran players who see it as their last chance," he said. "They'd probably say: 'f don't have to worry about guys throwing at me. As soon as there's an agreement, I'll be released.' On other hand, a player might figure, 'If f show enough, I might be able to help the team. I'll gut it through for a year."

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# Long Good-Bye in Anaheim? Rams Fans 'Might Even Cry'

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California - Will the Rams jilt Southern California for a new bome in St. Louis? Like a soap opera that keeps its viewers hanging on for the surprise plot twist, the Los Angeles Rams have kept their fans and an entire region in

won't-they saga.
Uncertainty about the team's future overshadowed the action Saturday in what could have been the Rams' final game in Anaheim.
"We might even cry," fan Louis Loera of

suspense for months with this will-they-or-

Fullerton said. If indeed it was the end, the Rams gave their

fans unpleasant memories with a 24-21 loss to the Washington Redskins. The rest of a 4-12 season was hardly worth remembering, either. The club is being wooed by the offer of a new domed stadium in St. Louis, a city that has

hungered for an NFL team since losing the Cardinals to Phoenix seven years ago.

"ft seems inevitable. All the signs point that

way," Don Bridge of nearby Chino Hills sighed about a possible move, "I'd still like to hope that since they haven't signed on the bottom line, there's still hope."

But few fans kidded themselves that owner Georgia Frontiere wouldn't move the Rams, who are projecting a loss of about \$6 million in bankrupt Orange County this year.

The Rams have had serious negotiations with St. Louis, although there's no timetable for announcing their intentions.

Several fans were quick to blame Frontiere, who inherited the team after her busband, Car-

roll Rosenbloom, died in 1979.

Her alleged crimes? Inept management, lack of football knowledge and being cheap with player salaries.

"We should sell Georgia and keep the Rams,"

Robert Galotti of Van Nuys said. "You have to pay money to make money." Not far from where Galotti tailgated in the Anaheim Stadium parking lot, Barbara Hitbrink ranted against Frontiere in between sips of

"f don't think they care two beans about Anaheim or the fans," said Hitbrink, a season ticket-holder from Anaheim Hills. "It's the me generation and she's one of the big leaders."

"Georgia has done nothing to foster any loyal-" added her friend, Ann Marie Goulding of lendale. "I'll give them a 1 percent chance of

Fan support has dwindled with the team's fifth straight season of double-digit losses. Saturday's game was blacked out locally after 35,066 tickets were distributed. Attendance for the game was 25,705 in 69,008-seat Anaheim Stadium. The Rams averaged 42,312 a game this season, lowest since moving to Anaheim in 1980.

Typical of the transient population in Southern California, there were plenty of supporters dressed in Redskins clothing.

"You put a mediocre team out there, you're going to get a mediocre turnout," said Javier Villarreal of Los Angeles, dressed in a blue-and-gold Rams, jacket. "Six years ago when they were winning, there were 60,000 fans here. I never thought it would come down to this."

### **CROSSWORD**

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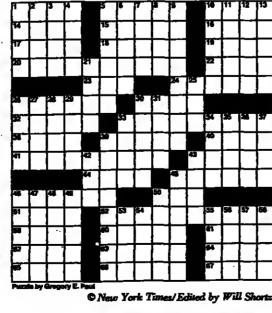
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Massachu-satts's motto

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46 "Stop" and "Merge," e.g. 49 Novelist Hermann 50 Fess up 53 Unctuous \$4 Carol syllable: #6 "Fourth base" \$7 An Untouchabl Wednesday

# STAGE/ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews from the world's most famous stages appear in the Stage/Entertainment pages - from London and New York theater to opera to symphony concerts conducted by renowned artists. Along with book and movie reviews, this section provides information on current entertainment options all over the world.

Every Wednesday in the International Herald Tribune.



### LANGUAGE

# Have You Gotten Over It? Don't Ask

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — "Get over whatever personal hang-ups you got," said Marion Barry, re-elected mayor of Washington of the hands had Washington, after having been brought low four years before on a cocaine charge. To those who did not vote for him, he

repeated: "Get over it."
This imperious imperative caused a small furor in politics' hometown. The satirist Mark Russell hailed get over it as "the

city's new motto."

Curiously, only two months ago, the media-harassed Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas was reported to have told a group of black officials in his chambers: "I'm going to be here for 40 years. For those who

don't like it, get over it."

Last month, a disk jockey on WMZQ, a country music station in the nation's capital, reported that a turkey-rights group had suggested people eat tofu for Thanksgiving, and asked listen-ers for appropriate songs to respond. Among them were Travis Tritt's "Here's a Quarter, Call Someone Who Cares" (theme music for "How the Gingrinch Stole Christmas"); Pam Tillis's "Don't Tell Me What to Do," a favorite of libertarians, and here we go - a tune recorded in the summer by the Eagles, re-united after 14 years, titled "Get

Over It.' And where did the rock group pick up the phrase? A bumper sticker after the 1992 presidential election read: "Bush Lost. Get Over It." Shortly after that, when the Buffalo Bills won their divisional championship and returned to the Super Bowl, their motto was "We're Back, America. Get Over It." (They lost again, and they still can't get over it in upstate New York.)

This phrase, first used in 1839 in "Thirty-Six Years of Seafar-ing Life," has evidently achieved its voguish pinnacle today. Without the it, the infinitive

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Oceania

duce." In its modern vogue sense, get over it has shouldered aside let's move on, last year's triumphant brushoff, and is in one sense challenging the ever- this problem before. Frank popular imperative exclamation

forget it! As an exhortation, get over it means "surmount your self-created obstacle; cure your self-induced debilitation." A related sense, more of a put-down, is "it's your problem, not mine" (sung to the tune of "Here's a Quarter, Call Someone Who Cares"). It overlaps forget it in the narrow sense of "don't bother me with that nonsense."

York and Washington, writes: "On the way into the city this morning, I asked the cabbie to wait for me a few minutes at my house. He said it would be difficult to park there because 'this city is crazy with politics - forget it! What did he mean by forget it? Did he mean 'this city has gone to the dogs - nothing works"?"

The meaning of forget it in this context is "don't ask," its root meaning "I am facing a situation of such stress that it will be impossible to cope."
("Ask me how I feel." "How do you feel?" "Don't ask.")

What a wonderful language; there's a word for everything. The chancellor of Syracuse University, Kenneth (Buzz) Shaw, was expounding to trustees on plans for the school's 125th anniversary next year: "halfway between a centennial and a sesquicentennial." He looked to me for the right word

for "125th"; I flunked. In my wallet was an ad from Plain Old Pearson's liquor store in Washington pushing "Grand Marnier Centeinquantenaire," which is booze with that 150-

phrase to get over has century- year-old French flavor, de riold slang meanings of "to improve one's status" and "to secentennial celebration every century and a haif. But there is no bottle advertised for one and a quarter centuries.

Somebody must have had Abate, the dictionary and reference specialist in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, rooted around and came up with the answer in a 1993 OED update, with a citation from a 1962 New York Times Book Review.

Seems that back then the people of Delavan, a town in Tazewell County, Illinois, wanted to hold a 125th-anniversary whoop-de-do for the bother me with that nonsense." town's founding. Delavan's cel-Sidney Harman, of Harman ebratory group "went to the International Industries of New Funk & Wagnalls dictionary people," according to The New York Times. "From there it received the suggestion of 'Quasquicentennial, meaning a hundred plus a fourth." Sure enough, in the next citation from a 1962 copy of The Bloomington (Illinois) Pantagraph, there was the coinage in use: "The Delavan Quasquicentennial Celebration doesn't offi-

"The combining form quasqui-," Abate says, "blends parts of Lain quadrans-, 'one-fourth,' and sesqui-, derived from a blending and modification of Latin semis, '00e-half,' plus-que, an enclitic meaning 'and.'" (An enclitic is an attachable wordelement, like a suffix, from the Greek klit, "slope.")

While we're at it, if you're planning celebrations, there is a novennial (9 years), as well as duodecennial (12) and vigintennial (20); similarly, there is peremnial (occurring year after year), along with plurennial (lasting for many years) and aeonial (everlasting).

So, Buzz, I'll see you on the quad for Syracuse's auasmicentennial. When we get to 175, we'll figure out a new word.

New York Times Service

# The Tumultuous Life of Saint-Exupéry

By Katherine Knorr International Herald Tribune

DARIS - Antoine de Saint-Exu-I pery was a great literary success and a deeply unhappy man. His disappearance in 1944 in a P-38 Lightning made him legendary, and the subject of many memoirs and biographies full of factual and doubtful anecdotes nearly as famous as "Le Petit Prince." Stacy Schiff, an American whose excellent biography is out pretty much simultaneously in the United States. France, Italy, Germany and Britain, portrays this exasperating man both skeptically and sympathetically, something she says maybe only a woman could do.

"There's a patience in this biography perhaps because it was written by a woman," she said, adding that men writing about Saint-Ex tend to find him a "spoiled brat." Saint-Ex, of course, was spoiled — virile and childish, courageous and scatterbrained, tirelessly fighting rules of all kinds.

What draws one to the life is this real contrast between opposite ends of the spectrum," Schiff said by phone from New York -a man "who wrote but was not intellectual, who was a pilot but was a Luddite, who in the '40s couldn't muster up any politics."
"Because he so often bucks the

trends, Saint-Exupery provides a love-ly prism through which to view France in the first half of the century."

Saint-Ex, always part of the pop culture landscape in this country, is having a good literary year, too. Fifty years after his disappearance, Gallimard is publishing a new edition of his complete works in its Pleiade collecdon, which gives them at least physical longevity. "The Little Prince" is the most widely translated book in the French language, but Saint-Exupery's more serious works have been in the critical doldrums for years.

A lot is known about Saint-Exupery's family, about his legendary crashes and about the lonely and exhilarating hours be spent above sea or sand in starry darkness. Less is known about Saint-Ex the man. Partly because of French privacy laws, partly because of French biographical tradition, which tends either to reverence or to flame-throwing, it has taken Anglo-Saxons to round out the life.



Saint-Exupéry being dressed for a high-altitude mission.

Schiff's thoroughly researched and sourced book, which has what it takes to be the definitive work, follows by two years Paul Webster's strong biog-raphy. Through many interviews and much digging in government archives, Schiff adds significant information on Saint-Exupery's tumultuous private life, oo the more than two years he spent in the United States after France surrendered — when he wrote what are arguably his greatest works - and on the final months when he

was flying in the Mediterranean. Among the odder things Schiff stumbled across was a tape Saint-Ex sent to Jean Renoir for a film project,

which after 50 years of silence was dug up for Schiff by the filmmaker's family along with 19 tapes of (unrelated) role music.

Schiff sets aside the French myth that Saint-Ex was useful in getting America into the war, saying there is no evidence that anybody in the U.S. government really listened to him except clandestinely, to keep a watch on someooe whose political loyalties seemed unclear. He was suspicious both of Petain and of de Gaulle, and therefore reviled by many in the divided French expatriate community. His books were banned both by the Gaullists and by the Nazis.

Schiff tracked down girlfriends, of which there were many in America (Saint-Ex was unhappily married to the South American Consuelo Suncia). Schiff had unusual access to Saint-Ex's longtime French mistress, the author, under the pseudonym of Pierre Chevrier, of one of the most important early biographies. She spoke on the condition that she not be named, making her in this book the maddeningly mysterious Madame de B. (She is widely known to be Nelly de Vogue, and was named in Webster's

biography.)
That kind of discretion is common in France, where de Vogue is either blandly referred to as Chevrier or as an unnamed intimate friend, and where the heirs of Saint-Exupery have made biographers' lives difficult and tried to stop auctions of letters.

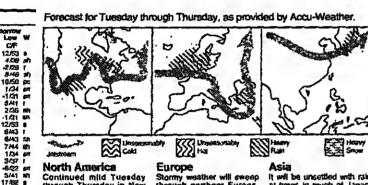
In 1943, when Saint-Ex sought to fly again, he was too old and in bad physical condition. He howled as he was dressed in flying gear (by others, since he could hardly bend over), he used more oxygen than others in the cockpit, he refused to learn English, he got his meters and his feet mixed up, and yet he charmed and blustered his way up again and again.

Leon Gray, an American officer at the time, recalled for Schiff a conversation in which Saint-Ex was again pleading to fly: "Sir, I want to die for France." To which Gray replied: "I don't give a damn if you die for France. or not, but you're not going to do so in one of our airplanes." But he did. Schiff's husband, Marc de La Bruy-

ère, is French and, only coincidentally she says, the great-grandson of avia-tion pioneer Louis Breguet. In France, the book is published under her married oame, because her poblisher, Al-bin Michel, felt that "a book written about France by a foreigner would be welcomed more warmly if that person happened to be called La Bruyère."

In the end, the biographer's work is interpretation. Schiff's Consuelo is considerably more destructive and less a victim of Saint-Ex than she has been portrayed elsewhere ("He was tortured beyond belief by this worn. an," she says), and her Saint-Ex is a hero. The 33-year-old Schiff is not without the biographer's nightmare: "What if I've got him terribly wrong?"

#### **WEATHER**



Continued mild Tuesday through Thursday in New York City and Philadelphia with sunshine each day. Rains are Buly in San Francisco Tuesday into Wednesday and in Los Angelist Wednesday Into Thursday. Flather mild for the season Tuesday through Thursday in Chicago and Detroit.

Starmy weather will eweep through northern Europe. From London to Berlin and Paris to Stockholm, strong Paris of Korea will have some rain and snow. In Toesday, unsetted weather Shangha, rain will ond Tues-will be Westers

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### **POSTCARD**

### Literary Movement: What's Next for Britain's Granta?

By Sarah Lyall New York Times Service

I ONDON—It was more than 15 years ago that Bill Bulord grabbed the ailing literary journal Granta by the scruff of its oeck and shook it back to health, transforming it from a magazine for Cambridge undergraduates to a fat quarterly of fiction and nonfiction that has become a mustread in literary circles here and in the United States.

If Bulord, oow 40, has sometimes seemed to run Granta as a vanity press -his vanity, his press - he has also muscled it ooto the literary scene, through a combination of first-rate contacts, relentless coergy and an exuberant belief that if he likes something, he can print it.

The magazine's circulation, a sorry 800 or worse when Buford took over, now hovers at just below 100,000, with about two-thirds of that in the United States. The company also publishes 20 or so books a year in a joint venture with Penguin Books, and this year it expects to register a small profit. Now that Buford, a native of California

doning his creation for the new post of fiction and literary editor at The New Yorker, people who know Granta are ask-ing, what will become of it now?

"It's his magazine," said the travel writer Redmood O'Hanlon, a contributor and friend who remembers fondly when he first met Buford, at a dinner about 14 years ago. The guests included the poet James Fenton and the authors Ian McEwan, Martin Amis and Timothy Garton Ash, and by the end of the meal, O'Hanlon said, Buford had signed them all up.

"I really can't imagine it without him."

he added. No one has yet emerged as the frontrunner for Buford's job. But Rea S. Hederman, the owner of The New York Review of Books and the majority shareholder in Granta, said a oumber of people had al-

ready telephoned with suggestions. Granta is one of a handful of widely read literary publications to publish new fiction and independently commissioned reporting

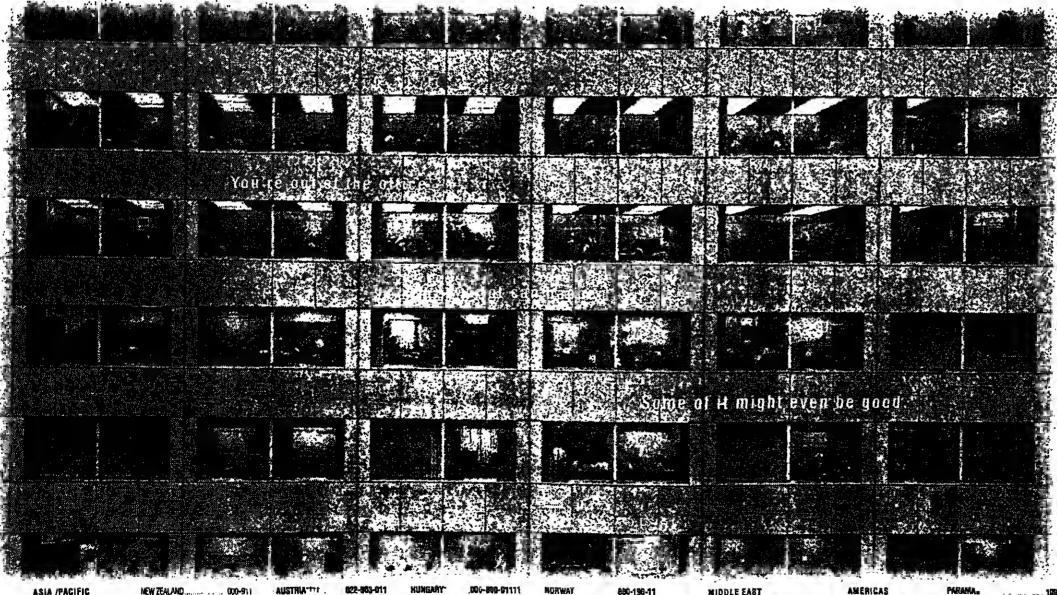
who came to England to pursue a graduate at lengths that can stretch to 40,000 words. degree in English and never left, is aban-"Authors definitely gain from being in the magazine in that they are more widely read than they might otherwise be." Liz Calder of the publishing house Bloomsbury said, although she confessed to being a bit grumpy at what she described as Buford's tendency to take credit for discovering authors others had already found, like Salman Rushdie years ago. She isn't alone in that

criticism, but Buford is usually forgiven. "He has extremely good taste and a very good nose," Calder said. "He knows what's good when he sees it."

Buford said he agonized for the good part of a month before accepting the job at The New Yorker. "I think it's probably true that I've reached a plateau at Granta, he said.

"The circulation is stable, the readership is pretty stable, the magazine's integrity and quality and level of achievement are all pretty stable," be said. "It occurred to me that if I stayed, the only think I could contribute at this point would be to do more of the same thing."

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